JAMAICA.

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

EARTHQUAKE AT KINGSTON, JAMAICA, ON 14TH JANUARY, 1907.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1907.

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2	The Governor to the Secretary, War Office.	Telegram	January 14 (Rec. in Colonial Office, Jan. 16.)	Reports earthquake, destruction of camp hospital, and death of 30 persons; states that no officer is killed, but Major Hardyman seriously wounded.	1
3	To the Governor ...	Telegram	January 16	Expresses deep regret at the disaster which has befallen the city of Kingston, and the sympathy of His Majesty's Government; requests fullest particulars by telegraph.	2
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7	To the Governor ...	Telegram	January 16	States that the "Brilliant" and "Indefatigable" have been ordered to proceed to Kingston with stores.	3
8	The Governor of Bermuda.	Telegram	(Rec. Jan. 16)	States that medical stores, &c., will be despatched to Jamaica as soon as possible by H.M.S. "Brilliant."	3
9	The Governor ...	Telegram	(Rec. Jan. 17)	Transmits fuller details of earthquake, as to extent of damage, condition of population, loss of life, &c.	3
9A	Relief Committee, New York.	Telegram	(Rec. Jan. 17)	Conveys message to the Governor, expressing sympathy, announcing formation of Committee for forwarding relief supplies and requesting that requirements and landing point may be cabled to New York.	4
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57	To the Governor ...	—	January 25	Expresses regret for the lives sacrificed, awaits reports on the question of aid from the fund to those who will be unable to re-establish themselves without assistance, and on the questions arising out of the destruction of public property.	21
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61	Ditto	Telegram	(Rec. Jan. 27)	Reports number of persons remaining in hospital, release from duty of officers and men of the Jamaica Militia Artillery and St. Andrew's Rifle Corps who have been under arms since the calamity, and total of subscriptions.	23
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78	The Governor ...	Telegram	January 31 (Rec. Feb. 1.)	Gives particulars of burials, hospital patients, relief funds; states that main road bridges are not seriously damaged and all main roads are safe for traffic.	39
79	Ditto	Telegram	(Rec. Feb. 2)	States that total number of earthquake patients is 219, and that relief is being arranged through local committees; the weather is fine and there are no more shocks.	39
80	Ditto	Telegram	(Rec. Feb. 3)	Requests that the Governor of Malta may be informed that the Government of Jamaica gratefully accepts the contribution voted in aid of sufferers.	40
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137	The Governor ...	—	February 11 (Rec. Mar. 1.)	Encloses scheme, drawn up by a local committee, for the rebuilding of Kingston, together with Minutes of Privy Council; explains his reason for not discussing the scheme in detail.	84
138	The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Ltd.	—	March 1	Transmits telegram received from the Archbishop of the West Indies requesting that decision in the matter of the proposed grant and loan may be delayed pending his arrival in England with a petition now being signed.	97
139	To the Mansion House Committee.	—	March 1	States, in reply to Nos. 126 and 135, that the questions put forward are under consideration, and the Secretary of State prefers to defer for a few days the reply as to receiving a deputation of the Mansion House Committee.	97
140	The Governor of British Honduras.	—	February 14 (Rec. Mar. 4.)	Reports, with reference to No. 85, that a further sum of $2,500 has been privately subscribed.	97
141	The Lord Provost of Glasgow.	—	March 4	Forwards £850 as a second instalment from the fund for the relief of sufferers.	98
142	To the Lord Provost of Glasgow.	—	March 5	Acknowledges receipt of No. 141, and conveys the thanks of the Government and people of Jamaica for the further contribution.	98
143	To the Governor ...	Telegram 1.	March 5	Requests, with reference to No. 138, that the Archbishop may be informed that the subject of Imperial aid is receiving the fullest consideration of the Secretary of State, who is not at present in a position to give the Archbishop any pledge or guidance.	98
144	Ditto	—	March 7	States that copies of the Resolutions forwarded in No. 133 have been transmitted to their Majesties and to the Prince of Wales.	99
145	Ditto	—	March 7	Notifies receipt of £1,000 from the citizens of Bristol towards the relief of sufferers.	99
146	To the Lord Mayor of Bristol.	—	March 7	Conveys thanks for the generous contribution of £1,000 from the citizens of Bristol for the relief of sufferers.	99
147	The West India Association of Glasgow.	—	March 7	Reports the receipt of a letter from the Chairman, Mr. Crum Ewing, who is now in Jamaica, urging the necessity for an Imperial loan for rebuilding; supports the appeal for a grant of £150,000 and a loan of £1,000,000.	99
147A	Admiralty	—	March 8	Forwards copy of a letter from the Commanding Officer of His Majesty's Ship "Brilliant," with enclosures reporting his proceedings at Jamaica.	100

Serial No.	From or to whom.	—	Date.	Subject.	Page.
			1907.		
148	The Direct West India Cable Company, Ltd.	—	March 9	Transmits text of a telegram from the Archbishop of the West Indies, urging that no decision as to Imperial assistance should be taken pending the arrival of the deputation leaving the Colony with a petition on March 14.	103
149	To the Governor of British Honduras.	—	March 9	Acknowledges receipt of No. 140, and observes that the action of the Council and the generous liberality of private subscribers will be warmly appreciated in Jamaica.	103
150	The Governor ...	—	February 21 (Rec. Mar. 11.)	Encloses extracts from the minutes of a meeting of the Privy Council, at which No. 107 was considered; points out objections to a Colonial guaranty.	103
151	To the Governor of the Leeward Islands.	—	March 11	Appreciates the generosity which inspired the vote reported in No. 136; but suggests that the expenditure was beyond the present means of Montserrat.	104
152	Foreign Office ...	—	March 12	Transmits copy of a despatch from Mr. Mallet, at Panama, enclosing copy of correspondence relative to the despatch of supplies to Kingston, and reporting a public subscription of £2,000, and a grant of £160 from the Canal zone municipalities.	105
153	The Governor ...	—	February 25 (Rec. Mar. 13.)	Conveys thanks on behalf of sufferers in Jamaica for the expression of sympathy passed by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce.	106
154	Ditto	—	February 25 (Rec. Mar. 13.)	Requests that thanks for the expressions of sympathy received from the Governments of Portugal, Belgium, and Norway, may be conveyed to the Governments concerned.	107
155	Ditto	—	February 25 (Rec. Mar. 13.)	Requests that thanks may be conveyed to the Mayor of Leicester and the Town Council of Southampton for their expressions of sympathy.	107
156	Ditto	—	February 25 (Rec. Mar. 13.)	Requests that thanks may be conveyed to the British Chamber of Commerce, Paris, for their expression of sympathy and for their intention to open a subscription list.	108
157	Ditto	—	March 4 (Rec. Mar. 19.)	Requests that thanks may be conveyed to the Colombian Legation, the Uruguayan Minister, the Mayor of Havre, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Panama, and the Portuguese Chamber of Deputies, for their messages of sympathy.	108
158	Ditto	—	March 4 (Rec. Mar. 19.)	Requests that thanks may be conveyed to the Japanese Embassy, the President of Hayti, the Haytian Minister, the Spanish Embassy, the President of Venezuela, and the Consul-General of Venezuela for their messages of sympathy.	108

Serial No.	From or to whom.	—	Date.	Subject.	Page.
			1907.		
159	The Governor ...	—	March 4 (Rec. Mar. 19.)	Requests that thanks may be conveyed to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh for his action in starting a relief fund, together with an expression of appreciation at the sympathy displayed.	109
160	Ditto	—	March 4 (Rec. Mar. 19.)	Requests that his thanks may be conveyed to the Lord Provost of Glasgow for the opening of relief fund.	109
161	The Acting Governor of Sierra Leone.	—	March 8 (Rec. Mar. 23.)	Reports that the citizens of Freetown have subscribed £107 1*s.* 8*d.* towards the relief of sufferers.	110
162	The Archbishop of the West Indies.	—	March 30	Reports arrival of Mr. Farquharson and himself as a deputation and encloses a petition praying for a grant of £150,000 and a loan of £1,000,000; asks for an interview with the Secretary of State.	110
163	To the Archbishop of the West Indies.	—	April 8	Appoints an interview for 10th April ...	113
164	To the Acting-Governor of Sierra Leone.	—	April 8	Acknowledges receipt of No. 161, and states that the Crown Agents have been authorized to make the necessary payment to the Jamaica Relief Fund Account.	114
165	Admiralty	—	May 1	Forwards extracts from a letter from the Rear-Admiral Commanding the Fourth Cruiser Squadron relative to the damage caused by the earthquake.	114
166	To the Acting Governor.	Telegram	May 8	Notifies decision to propose to the House of Commons a free grant of £150,000 and a loan of £800,000.	117
167	To the Archbishop of the West Indies.	—	May 8	Conveys purport of No. 166 and states that the petition will be formally laid before the House of Commons with the recommendation of His Majesty thereon; conveys thanks to himself and Mr. Farquharson.	117
168	The Acting Governor.	Telegram	(Rec. May 8.)	Conveys heartfelt and profound thanks of the Colony.	117
169	The Archbishop of the West Indies.	—	May 10	Expresses hope that the aid afforded by His Majesty's Government will go far towards enabling a start to be made in restoration of buildings and resuscitation of business.	118
170	To the Governor ...	—	May 17	Confirms No. 166 and states purposes for which the free grant of £150,000 and the loan of £800,000 should be utilized; hopes that the assistance rendered will secure renewed prosperity and contentment to Jamaica.	118

JAMAICA.

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

EARTHQUAKE AT KINGSTON, JAMAICA,

ON 14th JANUARY, 1907.

No. 1.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 7.50 a.m., January 16, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by Nos.* 3, 4, *and* 57.]

January 14. Severe earthquake shock this afternoon between three and four o'clock, causing considerable damage to houses, Kingston, followed by fire, which continues, though confined to about one-sixteenth part of the town, containing the wharves and warehouses. In camp, hospital destroyed, 30 killed, no officer, Major Hardyman seriously injured. General hospital crowded with some 300 injured. Fire now decreasing. Myrtle Bank Hotel destroyed, also Cable Office. Conference delegates and Sir A. Jones's expedition believed uninjured, and now on "Port Kingston" in harbour. Numbers killed and wounded yet unascertained. Slighter shocks continue.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 2.

THE GOVERNOR to THE WAR OFFICE.

(Received in Colonial Office January 16, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

January 14. Earthquake this afternoon; camp hospital destroyed; 30 killed. No officer killed. Major Headyman* seriously wounded. Send one medical officer vice Sedgewick injured.—SWETTENHAM.

* Major W. H. Hardyman, West India Regiment.

No. 3.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 12.35 p.m., January 16, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 75.]

I have received with greatest regret your telegram* reporting the grave disaster which has befallen the City of Kingston, causing widespread distress and loss of life. In absence of full particulars, I can only at present express, on my own behalf and that of His Majesty's Government, an assurance of deep sympathy with the Colony in this new and terrible trial, and more especially with the immediate sufferers. Telegraph the fullest possible particulars as to the extent of the calamity, and the means to hand for coping with it.—ELGIN.

No. 4.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 12.10 p.m., January 16, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 9.]

Telegraph names of any killed or injured who are known to have relatives in England, both soldiers and civilians. Numerous enquiries being made. Telegraph whether or not report of Sir James Fergusson's death is confirmed.—ELGIN.

No. 5.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 2.5 p.m., January 16, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

I am commanded by the King to request you to express to the inhabitants of Kingston the horror with which His Majesty and Her Majesty the Queen have learnt of the terrible catastrophe which has befallen that town with the loss of so many lives, and the deep sympathy of their Majesties with the sufferers, and with the relations of those who have been killed.—ELGIN.

No. 6.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 16, 1907.)

SIR, Admiralty, January 16, 1907.

I AM commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to state, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that the two cruisers, H.M.S. "Brilliant" and H.M.S. "Indefatigable" have been ordered to proceed to render any assistance that may be necessary at Kingston, Jamaica, and have also been ordered to take stores.

I have, &c.,
EVAN MACGREGOR.

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* No. 1.

No. 7.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 2.12 p.m., January 16, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

H.M.S. "Brilliant" and "Indefatigable" have been ordered to proceed to Kingston bringing stores from Bermuda and Trinidad.—ELGIN.

No. 8.

THE GOVERNOR OF BERMUDA to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 7.30 p.m., January 16, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

On requisition Senior Naval Officer have ordered two officers, Royal Army Medical Corps, four men, medical stores, and issue tent equipment from military stores to be despatched as soon as possible by H.M.S. "Brilliant," Jamaica. Naval Authorities also sending stores. Am telegraphing to Governor, Jamaica, inquiring whether further assistance required. Please inform Secretary of State for War.—STEWART.

No. 9.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.45 p.m., January 17, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by Nos.* 19 *and* 57.]

Continuing previous telegram on subject of earthquake, the evil effect has been confined almost to three parishes of the Island, namely, Kingston, Port Royal, and St. Andrew. The fire in Kingston has practically ceased; only coal and rubbish now burning. District burned comprises triangular area between Parade Gardens, sea, Duke Street, and Princess Street, Parish Church forming apex of the triangle, about one-thirtieth part of town. Wharves burned are George and Branday, Malabre, Haggart, Lyons, Solomons, De Mercado, Henriques, and one, not both, of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's. Burned area being cleared slowly, owing to indisposition of population to labour at double usual wages. A few bodies are still covered with ruins. Burials to noon this day comprise 343, persons admitted to hospital, Kingston, 440, excluding some 60 cases sent to Spanish town from Kingston for treatment. Population generally encamped in Parade Gardens, race-course, and open spaces. Reluctant to return to ruined houses during fine weather. Usual provision shops in burned area and consequent difficulty to buy provisions. Arranging for sales temporarily, and for transfer of persons to other parishes. Some pilfering last night from deserted premises difficult to prevent, and this day from deserted shops. Population wonderfully patient, but listless.

Amongst the killed are Sir James Fergusson, Bart., J. J. Middleton, A. M. Nathan, E. De Cordova, J. R. Mudon, J. A. Payne, Dr. Gibb, R. W. Bradley, B. Verley, W. George, H. Burrows, C. M. Sherlock, E. Morrice, Captain Constantine, Mail Agent, Miss Lockett.

Great assistance given by Sir Alfred Jones, who converted "Port Kingston" into temporary hospital and refuge, and by Dr. Arthur Evans, and the ship staff; by Dr. Bucher, Spanish Town, who sent a staff of firemen to relieve the exhausted Kingston brigade; by the General Officer Commanding, who has furnished large contingent of military to assist in keeping order, and patrolling; by the clergy of

various denominations; by Captains Forwood and Favell; by Professor Longstaff; and by others too numerous to mention.

Except Nathan no passenger on board "Port Kingston" seriously injured.

Direct Line cable broken some three miles off coast; both telegraph offices burned.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 9A.

RELIEF COMMITTEE, NEW YORK, to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 17, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 16A.]

Governor Swettenham (Jamaica), care of Colonial Office, London. Sincerest sympathy. Committee formed New York purpose forwarding relief supplies. Cable requirements, also landing point. Kindly reply to Reliefcomt, New York.

No. 10.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 18, 1907.)

SIR, Admiralty, January 17, 1907.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, copies of two telegrams dated 17th January, from (1) H.M.S. "Indefatigable," Trinidad; (2) H.M.S. "Dominion," Bermuda.

I am, &c.,
EVAN MACGREGOR

Enclosure 1 in No. 10.

TELEGRAM from H.M.S. "INDEFATIGABLE."

Port of Spain, 17th January, 1907. In reply to your telegram, No. 4, Trinidad, Colonial Government have purchased £1,500 provisions, clothing, &c., leaving immediately for port (*i.e.*, Kingston) with the stores.—"INDEFATIGABLE."

Enclosure 2 in No. 10.

TELEGRAM from H.M.S. "DOMINION."

Bermuda, January 17, 1907. With reference to Admiralty telegram of 16th January, "Brilliant" has left for Jamaica, having on board one officer, four dressers, Royal Army Medical Corps; one Commissary, 12 privates, Army Ordnance Department; also 250 tents and marquees, 25 tons medical comforts and provisions.—"DOMINION."

No. 11.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 11.15 p.m., January 17, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Further particulars anxiously expected. I wish to know at once what assistance is required.—ELGIN.

No. 12.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 18, 1907.)

SIR, Foreign Office, January 17, 1907.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you copies of two telegrams from Mr. Howard, His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington, respecting the despatch of United States Vessels to Kingston in connection with the Jamaica disaster.

Mr. Howard has been instructed by telegram to inform the United States Government that His Majesty's Government deeply appreciate the prompt assistance thus rendered.

I am, &c.,
ERIC BARRINGTON.

Enclosure 1 in No. 12.

MR. HOWARD, Washington, to Sir E. GREY, No. 4, January 16, 1907.

TELEGRAM.

Have cabled to Jamaican Government, at request of Secretary of State, deep sympathy of United States, and offer of help and supplies if they are wanted.

A ship has already been sent to Kingston by the United States Government.

Enclosure 2 in No. 12.

MR. HOWARD, Washington, to Sir E. GREY, No. 5, January 16, 1907.

TELEGRAM.

Jamaica earthquake. See my preceding telegram, United States Government have sent ships "Indiana" and "Missouri" from Guantanamo to Kingston. Supply ship "Celtic" with provisions, will be available if wanted. Admiral Evans has proceeded in a torpedo-boat with medical assistance to (? Kingston).

No. 13.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 7.50 a.m., January 18, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 17.]

Telegraphic communication with Kingston broken. Shall be grateful to you

if you will convey to the people of Kingston, at request of my Ministers, an expression of their profoundest sympathy, and of their anxiety to render assistance in any way that may be immediately required.—GREY.

No. 14.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 24, 1907.)

SIR, Foreign Office, January 18, 1907.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to inform you that the Portuguese Minister conveyed to him to-day an expression of the feelings of regret and sympathy with which the news had been received in Portugal of the recent disaster in Jamaica.

I am, &c.,
ERIC BARRINGTON.

No. 15.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 9.40 a.m., January 18, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Please inform Admiralty and Board of Trade Plumb Point Lighthouse destroyed, navigation dangerous, small white light will be exhibited.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 16.

WAR OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 18, 1907.)

(1.)

COMMUNIQUÉ.

The following telegram has been received by the Officer Commanding Records, Army Service Corps, from the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, Jamaica:—

"Everybody Army Service Corps quite safe."

War Office,
January 18, 1907.

(2.)

COMMUNIQUÉ.

TELEGRAM from GENERAL, Jamaica, to SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR.

Earthquake Jamaica 14th January. Up Park Camp and outlying military officers and civilian quarters completely wrecked. Port Royal declared insanitary,

necessitating transfer of European troops there to camp under canvas. All stone buildings at Newcastle and Greenwich down, small local subsidences at Port Royal.

Medical requires at once two officers, one non-commissioned officer, bovril, tins of condensed milk, dressings scale 200, Hodgen's, Neville's, and other splints, disinfectants.

Commissariat requires preserved meat, biscuits, or flour, with proportionate articles for breadmaking, compressed vegetables, groceries, tobacco, for 2,000 for two months.

Expedite supply, if possible by man-of-war from Bermuda, or by first opportunity.

Lieutenant White retained for duty.

(3.)

COMMUNIQUÉ.

Known casualties up to date:—

Deaths.

Officers:—Major W. H. Hardyman and Lieutenant J. Lamont, West India Regiment; European non-commissioned officers: 6263, Quartermaster-Sergeant J. Sykes, 29th Company Royal Army Medical Corps; 3538, Company-Sergeant Major Sugden, "A" Company Depôt, West India Regiment, and wife. Non-commissioned officers and men, West India Regiment, ten, also three missing. Also Europeans: Sapper Warburton, wife and daughter of 4715, Quartermaster-Sergeant G. Gane, "D" Company West India Regiment; wife of Prison Warder Sergeant J. Venesse, Military Prison Staff Corps; daughter of 10015 Staff-Sergeant A. W. Grant, 29th Company, Royal Army Medical Corps.

Officers injured: serious: Lieutenant H. C. Sidgwick, M.B., Royal Army Medical Corps, compound fracture of leg, progressing; not serious: Captain W. P. Marley, Lieutenant R. R. Leader, A. B. Priestley, and A. C. H. Dixon, Quartermasters J. E. Kingchurch and S. H. Price, West India Regiment; Major G. M. Hutton, D.S.O., Royal Engineers, Second Lieutenant G. McC. Roome, Royal Garrison Artillery.

Non-commissioned officers and men, dangerous:—10711, Sergeant F. Sharpe, 29th Company, Royal Army Medical Corps; serious, wife of foreman of works; 22163, Staff-Sergeant C. A. Ireland, Supernumerary-Staff, Royal Engineers; child of 4297, Company Sergeant-Major R. T. Levitt, "B" Company, West India Regiment.

War Office,
January 18, 1907.

No. 16A.

COLONIAL OFFICE to RELIEF COMMITTEE, NEW YORK.

(Sent 11 a.m., January 18, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Your message* for Governor, Jamaica, received here and forwarded. Secretary of State highly appreciates and thanks Relief Committee.

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* No. 9A.

No. 17.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA

(Sent 11.40 a.m., January 18, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Your telegram* as to Kingston disaster forwarded to Governor of Jamaica. I do not doubt that the expression of sympathy and offer of assistance conveyed in it on behalf of your Ministers will be warmly appreciated by the people of Kingston, as it is by myself.—ELGIN.

No. 18.

THE GOVERNOR OF MAURITIUS to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 11.55 a.m., January 18, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 21.]

(Extract.)

Are people of Jamaica in need of assistance such as may be offered here in shape of public subscription? Please telegraph reply. Unofficial members of Executive Council in favour of contribution from Colonial funds.—BOYLE.

No. 19.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 3.55 p.m., January 18, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Your telegrams† received. You will know that I fully appreciate the courage and firmness with which you and your Government are facing this great disaster, and I do not wish to trouble you with telegraphic instructions or to fetter your discretion; but I wish, as far as possible, to be informed of English casualties by name, and condition of injured, so as to allay anxiety of relatives, and to be kept fully apprised of your views and wishes in regard to extent and kind of assistance required. Mansion House Fund has been opened and remittance will be made as soon as possible.—ELGIN.

No. 20.

THE MAYOR OF LEICESTER to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received 4.10 p.m., January 18, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 55.]

The Mayor of Leicester, on behalf of the inhabitants, begs you to convey to the Governor of Jamaica the deep sympathy of Leicester with the Governor and island of Jamaica in the serious calamity at Kingston.

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* No. 13.

† Nos. 1, 8, 9 and 15.

No. 21.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR OF MAURITIUS.

(Sent 6.35 p.m., January 18, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Your telegram of 18th January,* fully appreciated. It is not possible to gauge at present full extent of distress in Jamaica and amount of relief required, but any subscriptions which may be sent to Lord Mayor's Fund will be gladly received. At present I deprecate grant from public funds of Colony.—ELGIN.

No. 22.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.

MY LORD MAYOR, Downing Street, January 19, 1907.

THE cause of the sufferers by the terrible calamity which has visited the Island of Jamaica has already received the highest support that it can receive in the most generous manner, from His Majesty the King, from Her Majesty the Queen, and from their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. Yet, as Secretary of State for the Colonies, it is my duty not only to gratefully acknowledge the promptness with which your Lordship has placed the beneficent assistance of the Mansion House at the disposal of people of Kingston in the time of their distress, but also to say what can, and should, be said by the responsible head of the Colonial Office for the time being on behalf of the cause for which the fund is being raised.

2. The information which has now been received from the Governor, Sir Alexander Swettenham, in whose capacity for dealing with such a crisis as has arisen I have the fullest confidence, leaves, I fear, no room for doubt as to the wholesale destruction which has taken place, or as to the sorrow and suffering which has been caused in the city of Kingston. Over and above the conspicuous features of the catastrophe, the extent of the disaster, its terrible suddenness, and the importance to the Colony of its principal centre of trade, there are, to my mind, two special considerations which may be urged in support of the Mansion House appeal. The first is that the historical associations and the great past of Jamaica, marked, as it has been, with calamities similar to the present, must attract the sympathy of all who feel the kinship of the British Empire. The second is that when, a little more than three years ago, half the Island was swept by a hurricane, grave as was the crisis, it was met without trenching upon the services of the Mansion House. It is on behalf of a Colony which had but recently been straitened in its resources, and which, in the initial stage of recovery, has again suffered a grievous disaster that your Lordship has been good enough to invite assistance. I believe the appeal to be just. There is already evidence that the response will be generous.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 23.

THE GOVERNOR OF BRITISH GUIANA to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 7 p.m., January 19, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 26.]

January 17. At an informal meeting of Combined Court to-day members pledge themselves to a grant of 10,000 dollars towards relief arrangements Jamaica. Please inform Governor of Jamaica.—HODGSON.

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* No. 18.

No. 24.

THE GOVERNOR OF NEW ZEALAND to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 9 a.m., January 20, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 27.]

My Government have forwarded, through High Commissioner, £1,000 as a contribution to Jamaica Relief Fund and will be glad if you will transmit same to Governor of Jamaica.—PLUNKET.

No. 25.

THE ADMINISTRATOR OF DOMINICA to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 9.15 a.m., January 20, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 28.]

Dominica contributes £100 Jamaica relief. If you approve request Crown Agents be instructed.—YOUNG.

No. 26.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR OF BRITISH GUIANA.

(Sent 12.50 p.m., January 20, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

In answer to your telegram of 17th January,* highly appreciated. Governor of Jamaica informed. Presume that you will remit direct.—ELGIN.

No. 27.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR OF NEW ZEALAND.

(Sent 12.50 p.m., January 20, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

In answer to your telegram of to-day,† it will give me much pleasure to forward to Governor of Jamaica £1,000 which your Government have been good enough to contribute to Relief Fund, and wish to express my appreciation of this generous gift.—ELGIN.

No. 28.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE ADMINISTRATOR OF DOMINICA.

(Sent 12.50 p.m., January 20, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Contribution to Jamaica Relief Fund approved and appreciated.‡—ELGIN.

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* No. 23. † No. 24. ‡ See No. 25.

No. 29.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 21, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 35A.]

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and is directed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to transmit the accompanying copy of a telegram from His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington with regard to the Jamaica disaster.

The Secretary of State would be glad to be advised what answer should be returned to Mr. Howard.

Foreign Office,
January 21, 1907.

Enclosure in No. 29.

TELEGRAM from Mr. ESMÉ HOWARD, Washington, January 19, 1907.

Assistant Secretary of State asked me to-day with reference to the Jamaican disaster, whether His Majesty's Government require, or would be willing to accept, money contributions or any forms of aid other than those which the United States Government have already rendered. A grant-in-aid of Congress or Red Cross Fund started by President's appeal might be the form of the pecuniary assistance.

Please let me have instructions as to reply.

No. 30.

THE ACTING GOVERNOR OF SIERRA LEONE to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 3.25 p.m., January 21, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 44A.]

Will you approve of my suggesting to Legislative Council vote of £500 for Jamaica?

In addition I propose to call public meeting in order to raise further funds.—HADDON-SMITH.

No. 31.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 4 p.m., January 21, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Respectfully suggest your telegraphing cordial thanks from His Majesty's Government to United States Government for prompt and powerful assistance rendered by United States Navy under Rear-Admiral Davis to suffering Kingston.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 32.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 21, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 47.]

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
January 21, 1907.

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Consul Mallet, Panama, Telegram, January 20th, 1907.	Supplies for Jamaica.

Enclosure in No. 32.

TELEGRAM from Consul MALLET, Panama.

January 20, 1907. Special steamer, with all available supplies and tents, has been sent to Jamaica by Chief Engineer of Canal.

No. 33.

COLONIAL OFFICE to FOREIGN OFFICE.

[*Answered by No.* 58.]

SIR, Downing Street, January 21, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st January,* enclosing a copy of a telegram from His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington as to further assistance to the sufferers from the earthquake in Jamaica.

2. Lord Elgin is still awaiting information from the Governor, for which he has asked by cable, as to the need for further assistance and the form in which it would be most acceptable. In the meantime, he will be obliged if instructions may be sent by cable to Mr. Howard to inform the United States Government to the following effect:—

Offer of American Government to give further aid to the sufferers from the Jamaica disaster, either in money or otherwise, is gratefully appreciated by His Majesty's Government. The Governor of Jamaica has not yet reported his requirements fully, but now that the first few days are over it appears likely that there will be no justification for further calls upon the generosity of the United States. In the meantime, His Majesty's Government have been requested by Governor Sir A. Swettenham to convey to the Government of the United States cordial thanks for the prompt and powerful assistance which the United States Navy, under Rear Admiral Davis, rendered to the inhabitants of Kingston in their sufferings.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

* No. 29.

No. 34.

BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, PARIS, to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received January 21, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 35.]

British Chamber of Commerce, Paris (Incorporated),
17, Boulevard de la Madeleine, January 19, 1907.

MY LORD,

AT a special meeting of my Board, held on Friday, January 18th, I was requested to transmit to your Lordship the following resolution:—

"The Board of the British Chamber of Commerce, Paris, Incorporated, having heard with deep regret the sad news of the catastrophe which has overwhelmed the City of Kingston, Jamaica, resolves that a subscription be opened by the Chamber for the benefit of the sufferers;

"That the President be desired to transmit to the Right Honourable Lord Elgin, His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, the expression of the Chamber's profound sympathy with the commercial community and inhabitants of the Colony of Jamaica in this hour of trial."

I respectfully beg your Lordship to convey the above-cited resolution to His Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, and to the Municipal Authorities of Kingston, and have the honour to remain, &c.,

WILLIAM JAMES ABLETT,
President.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K.G., G.C.S.I.,
His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 35.

COLONIAL OFFICE to THE BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, PARIS.

SIR,

Downing Street, January 21, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th of January,* transmitting a resolution passed by the British Chamber of Commerce, Paris, expressing sympathy with the commercial community and inhabitants of Jamaica.

2. Lord Elgin much appreciates this expression of the Chamber of Commerce's regret, and the prompt measures which have been adopted with a view to subscribing funds for the sufferers by the earthquake, and will communicate your letter to the Governor of Jamaica.

3. Any sums received can either be remitted to this office or paid to the credit of the Mansion House Fund which has been opened.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 36.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 7.50 a.m., January 22, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 39.]

My Government are appropriating 50,000 dollars for Jamaica relief; if there be need will double amount. Availing themselves of immediate sailing steamer

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* No. 34.

"Beta" from Halifax have applied part of grant for the purchase of food and tents, which are being shipped to Governor's order.—GREY.

No. 37.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.15 a.m., January 22, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Slight earthquake shocks continue; confidence restored; population returning; weather fine; general stores ample except for rebuilding; charitable funds ample; United States steamships "Missouri" and "Indiana," with Admiral Davis, arrived 17th, left 19th, after rendering all possible assistance; H.M.S. "Indefatigable," with stores from Trinidad, arrived to-day; both banks re-opened. —SWETTENHAM.

No. 38.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 9.55 a.m., January 22, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Please convey to Lord Mayor and citizens of Birmingham sincere gratitude for sympathy.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 39.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.

(Sent 2 p.m., January 22, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

I have received your telegram of 21st January,* and I highly appreciate generous appropriation made by your Government for Jamaica relief. Your telegram has been communicated to Governor of Jamaica.—ELGIN.

No. 40.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 22, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 50.]

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and is directed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to transmit the accompanying copy of a telegram from His Majesty's Consul-General at New York respecting relief of sufferers by the Jamaican earthquake.

The Secretary of State would be glad to be advised what answer should be returned to Sir P. Sanderson.

Foreign Office,
January 22, 1907.

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* No. 36.

Enclosure in No. 40.

Telegram from Consul-General Sir P. SANDERSON.

New York, January 21, 1907.

Contributions in money and kind for relief of sufferers by Jamaican earthquake have been offered by Committee formed at New York. They have, however, received no answer to cable message addressed by them on 16th instant to Governor of Jamaica, and pending reply from him or the British Authorities, can take no action. They are anxious to know how to proceed.

No. 41.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 6.30 p.m., January 22, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 112.]

Relief Committee, New York, report having received no answer to their messages offering help. They have been informed stores not required, but that you will communicate with them with a view to remittance of money already subscribed. Please do so.—ELGIN.

No. 42.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.5 a.m., January 23, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Food and relief funds ample except for rebuilding.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 43.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.5 a.m., January 23, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Assistance His Majesty's ships "Indefatigable" and "Brilliant" gratefully welcomed.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 44.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 10.30 a.m., January 23, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Money and provisions more than ample for relief: except for rebuilding no funds needed.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 44A.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR OF SIERRA LEONE.

(Sent 11.40 a.m., January 23, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*See No.* 161.]

January 23, 1907. Your telegram of January 21* highly appreciated, but

* No. 30.

consider that in view of other contributions, there is not sufficient necessity for contribution from Government funds of Sierra Leone.—ELGIN.

No. 45.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 23, 1907.)

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers.

Foreign Office,
January 23, 1907.

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURES.

Name and Date.	Subject.
M. Irgens, January 19th	Condolences of Norwegian Government on account of Jamaica disaster.
To M. Irgens, January 23rd	

Enclosure 1 in No. 45.

NORWEGIAN CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES to Sir E. GREY.

SIR, London, January 19, 1907.

ACCORDING to telegraphic instructions from my Government, I beg to convey to you the expression of the most sincere condolence and sympathy from the Norwegian Government on the terrible disaster which has befallen Kingston.

I have, &c.,
J. IRGENS,
Chargé d'Affaires.

The Right Honourable
Sir Edward Grey, Bart., M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 2 in No. 45.

Sir E. GREY to NORWEGIAN CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES.

SIR, Foreign Office, January 23, 1907.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 19th instant, and, in reply, I beg to express the sincere thanks of His Majesty's Government for the sympathy conveyed therein by the Norwegian Government in connection with the recent disaster at Kingston.

I have, &c.,
E. GREY.

Monsieur Irgens,
&c., &c., &c.

No. 46.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 23, 1907.)

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to

the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers.

Foreign Office,
January 23, 1907.

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURES.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Sir A. Hardinge, January 19 ... ... To Sir A. Hardinge, January 23	Sympathy of Belgian Government at the Jamaica disaster.

Enclosure 1 in No. 46.

HIS MAJESTY'S MINISTER, Brussels, to Sir E. GREY.

SIR, Brussels, January 19, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that Baron de Favereau called on me yesterday to express on behalf of the Belgian Government its sympathy with that of His Majesty as well as with the sufferers from the disaster which has just caused such dreadful loss of life and injury to property at Kingston in Jamaica.

His Excellency added that Count de Lalaing, Belgian Minister in London, had been directed to convey to you his condolences on this calamity.

I thanked M. de Favereau for this kind expression of his sympathy which I said I would convey to you.

I have, &c.,
ARTHUR H. HARDINGE.

The Right Honourable
Sir Edward Grey, Bart., M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 2 in No. 46.

Sir E. GREY to HIS MAJESTY'S MINISTER, Brussels.

SIR, Foreign Office, January 23, 1907.

THE Belgian Minister called at this Office on the 19th instant to convey an expression of the sincere sympathy of the Belgian Government in the recent catastrophe at Kingston. The Count de Lalaing was assured of the gratitude felt by His Majesty's Government for his friendly message.

I have since received your despatch of the 19th instant, and I request that you will take an opportunity of expressing to the Baron de Favereau the deep appreciation of His Majesty's Government for the messages of sympathy conveyed by His Excellency and by the Count de Lalaing.

I am, &c.,
E. GREY.

Sir A. Hardinge, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

No. 47.

COLONIAL OFFICE to FOREIGN OFFICE.

[*Answered by No.* 62.]

SIR, Downing Street, January 23, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st January,* enclosing a copy of a telegram from His Majesty's Consul at Panama reporting the despatch by the Canal Authorities of a steamer with supplies for Jamaica.

2. Lord Elgin will be glad if Sir E. Grey will cause the thanks of His Majesty's Government for this assistance to be expressed in the proper quarter.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 48.

COLONIAL OFFICE to "THE TRIBUNE."

SIR, Downing Street, January 23, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your telegraphic enquiries as to facilities for sending stores for the relief of the sufferers by the Kingston earthquake, which have been offered by generous contributors at the initiative of the "Tribune" newspaper.

In reply I am to inform you that Lord Elgin is assured by the Governor of Jamaica that ample supplies of all sorts, with the exception of building materials, are now available at Kingston.

Under the circumstances it appears to his Lordship unnecessary that any further contributions of relief in kind should be sent to Jamaica; but, with regard to any that have actually been sent or consigned, or which have been contributed, and are ready for consignment, and are addressed to the care of the Colonial Government or of the Chairman of the Kingston Relief Committee, he will request the Governor to allow refunds of the duty payable on importation.

I am to take this opportunity of expressing to you Lord Elgin's high appreciation of the benevolent action of the "Tribune" newspaper in this matter, and of the liberality of those who have been good enough to contribute.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 49.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 6.15 p.m., January 23, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 54.]

"Tribune" newspaper has arranged for despatch of supplies and asks for free importation. I have informed them of your advice that local supplies ample, but that you will be requested to allow refund of duty payable on goods already despatched or ready for consignment to Chairman of Relief Committee.—ELGIN.

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* No. 32.

No. 50.

COLONIAL OFFICE to FOREIGN OFFICE.

SIR, Downing Street, January 23, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd of January,* on the subject of the relief of the sufferers by the earthquake in Jamaica by contributions collected by the New York Relief Committee.

2. I am to suggest that Sir P. Sanderson should be informed that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has learned from the Governor of Jamaica that there are sufficient general stores available in the Island, and that supplies having now been despatched from other sources, the Relief Committee should be informed, with the thanks of the Secretary of State, that it is understood that no further contributions in kind need, at any rate, for the present, be despatched. The contributions in money will be gratefully received as an addition to the fund which is being subscribed, and the Governor will be requested to communicate with the Relief Committee with a view to its remittance to Jamaica.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 51.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received January 24, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Extent of calamity: almost every house in Kingston and Port Royal and many in St. Andrews seriously injured. Kingston practically to be rebuilt. 559 bodies buried up to date, besides some undistinguishable remains burned; more, perhaps one or two hundred, must await removal of extensive ruins during next 12 months. Main thoroughfares almost cleared and tramcars running. Majority of population living in their out-houses or less injured rooms of houses. Those quite homeless number over 3,000 and are in temporary shelters in gardens, public places, and the racecourse, fed by a Relief Committee and private benevolence. Number diminishing owing to employment being plentiful at good wages. Numbers have left by train and steamer; 560 given free passages by railway. Weather still fine with slight shocks of earthquake. The good conduct of the refugees is conspicuous. Number of sufferers in General Hospital 298, at Spanish Town 41, in private hospital 40; besides very many treated in their own temporary locations or sheltering with friends. H.M.S. "Indefatigable" arrived with stores and relief from Trinidad 21st January. H.M.S. "Brilliant" arrived with stores from Bermuda 22nd January. Haytian Government "Aviso," with Vice-Admiral le Bon, arrived 22nd January with stores and relief from Port au Prince. French cruiser "Kléber," with Admiral Thierre, arrived 22nd January with stores and relief from Martinique. Steamship "Advance" from Panama with stores and a deputation arrived 22nd January.

Received subscriptions for relief, local £802, from abroad £1,194, promised from Panama £5,125, promised from British Guiana £2,050, St. Kitts £200, Trinidad, (stores included), £1,500, Lord Mayor's Fund £15,000, besides many consignments of stores and tents. Relief costs almost £100 a day. The orphans, cripples, aged, and helpless will be a permanent charge.—SWETTENHAM.

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* No. 40.

No. 52.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.10 a.m., January 24, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Respectfully suggest that convey thanks to Governments of Denmark, France, Martinique, Holland, Hayti, for assistance St. Thomas, Martinique, Hayti, and offered by Curaçao, and for sympathetic message from President of France.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 53.

THE TOWN CLERK OF SOUTHAMPTON to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 25, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 56.]

SIR, Town Clerk's Office, Municipal Offices, Southampton, January 24, 1907.

I BEG to enclose herewith copy of a resolution which was passed by the Council of this Borough at a meeting held on the 23rd instant, relative to the recent earthquake at Jamaica, and I am directed to ask that you will be so good as to cause the terms thereof to be communicated to the proper authorities at your convenience.

I am, &c.,
R. R. LINTHORNE,
Town Clerk.

Enclosure in No. 53.

Town Clerk's Office, Municipal Offices, Southampton.

County Borough of Southampton.

At a meeting of the Council of the County Borough of Southampton, held at the Municipal Offices, in the said County Borough, on Wednesday the 23rd day of January, 1907,

The Worshipful the Mayor, Mr. Alderman Andrews, J.P., presiding.

EARTHQUAKE IN JAMAICA.

It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by Mr. Alderman Bance, D.L., J.P., And resolved unanimously:—

"That the Council desire to express their sincere regret at the recent disastrous earthquake at Jamaica, and their deep sympathy with the sufferers thereby, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Colonial Office."

Extract from the Council minutes.

R. R. LINTHORNE,
Town Clerk.

January 24, 1907.

No. 54.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.5 a.m., January 25, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

In reply to your telegram of yesterday's date,* refund of duty on relief supplies arranged for as directed.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 55.

COLONIAL OFFICE to THE MAYOR OF LEICESTER.

SIR, Downing Street, January 25, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 18th instant† conveying, on behalf of the inhabitants of Leicester, a message of sympathy with the sufferers through the recent disaster at Kingston, and I am to inform you that a copy of your telegram is being communicated to the Governor of Jamaica by to-day's mail.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 56.

COLONIAL OFFICE to THE TOWN CLERK OF SOUTHAMPTON.

SIR, Downing Street, January 25, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant,‡ enclosing a copy of a resolution, passed by the Borough Council of Southampton, expressing sympathy with the sufferers through the recent disaster at Kingston, and I am to inform you that copies of your letter and enclosure are being communicated to the Governor of Jamaica by to-day's mail.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 57.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

SIR, Downing Street, January 25, 1907.

ON the 16th of January I received your telegram, dated the 14th instant§ reporting the occurrence of a severe earthquake at Kingston, which resulted in great loss of life and destruction of property. Your telegram of the 16th instant,‖ giving fuller particulars of the disaster, reached me on the following day, and I have since that date received your further telegrams of the 17th, 18th, 21st, and 24th instant,¶ in the two latter of which you report reassuringly of the present situation.

I have already expressed to you, and I here again record, the profound distress with which I have received the news of this calamity. The sympathy of the people of England with the people of Kingston in their misfortune has been conspicuously expressed in the action of His Majesty the King, Her Majesty the Queen, and Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, in opening a list of subscriptions at the Mansion House for the relief of destitute sufferers, in the good offices of the Lord Mayor of London for the furtherance of the appeal, and in the generous response which it has met with.

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* No. 49. † No. 20. ‡ No. 53. § No. 1. ‖ No. 9. ¶ Nos. 15, 31, 51, and 52.

It is clear from the lists received from you and through unofficial messages to the Press that a great number of valuable lives have been sacrificed. I must especially express my regret at the death of that distinguished soldier and statesman the Right Honourable Sir James Fergusson, whose presence in Kingston was due to his interest in the commercial affairs of the West Indies; of Mr. J. W. Middleton, formerly an elected member of the Legislative Council of Jamaica, and at the time of his death a member of the Board of Agriculture, whose enterprise in the promotion of new industries is so unfortunately lost to the island; of Captain Constantine, whose public spirit and courtesy in the discharge of his important duties in connexion with the trade of Jamaica have been universally recognised; not to mention the names of others, who, with less official connexion with the Colonial Government, have, I understand, been well known as valuable members of the civil community.

I have also received, with extreme regret, from the Secretary of State for War, information of the deaths of Major Hardyman and Lieutenant Lamont of the West India Regiment, and of other casualties amongst His Majesty's troops.

I am still without sufficient means of judging the full significance of the damage done to property, and what, in consequence, will be the situation in the near future of those citizens whose houses and goods have been destroyed. I have been glad to learn from your later telegrams that supplies and money for the relief of immediate needs are amply forthcoming, but I cannot doubt that very many will be unable to re-establish themselves in decent conditions of life without judicious assistance and encouragement out of the fund which has been so generously subscribed for this purpose by all classes in this country.

I shall doubtless in due course receive reports from you upon this question, amplifying your telegrams, and also upon the questions arising from the destruction of public property of the Government, the Kingston General Commissioners, and the City of Kingston, which, I fear, must have been very serious.

You have already acknowledged, and His Majesty's Government have acknowledged on behalf of Jamaica, the many messages of sympathy, the contributions of money and stores, and the practical assistance which have been offered and rendered by Canada, New Zealand, and other British Colonies, including especially the neighbouring West Indian Colonies, by the Government and Navy of the United States of America, and by other foreign communities.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 58.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 26, 1907.)

SIR, Foreign Office, January 25, 1907.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant,* suggesting that an instruction should be sent to His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington, expressing to the United States Government the appreciation of His Majesty's Government for their offer to give further aid to the sufferers from the Jamaica disaster, but stating that it is probable there will be no justification for further calls on the generosity of the United States.

I am to state, for the information of the Earl of Elgin, that a telegram in the terms suggested in the final paragraph of your letter has been sent to Mr. Howard.

I am, &c.,
ERIC BARRINGTON.

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* No. 33.

No. 59.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 7.50 a.m., January 26, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Buried up to 23rd January evening 559, remains burned 40. Canada has voted 50,000 dollars relief, Grenada 550 dollars. Body Miss Gordon, employee at the Post Office, recovered.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 60.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 12 midnight, January 26, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Please add following names victims earthquake:—Vera, daughter Company-Sergeant-Major Levitt, parish Kingston; Esther James, hospital Spanish Town; both died to-day. Four others buried to-day. Buried previously E. A. Smith, Outdoor Officer; Thomas Gale, Customs Guard. Relief Fund further subscriptions: Liverpool £1,000, Colombo £500, Britons, Costa Rica, £100. Steamship "Alleghany" bringing stores from American Red Cross Society arrived.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 61.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 9.55 p.m., January 27, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

January 26, afternoon. Hospital discharged to-day 26, remaining 263. Released from duty, with thanks Government, about 80 officers and men of Jamaica Militia Artillery, nearly the same St. Andrews Rifle Corps, who had been constantly under arms assisting police after the calamity. Total subscriptions: local, £11,040; from others, £20,400. His Majesty's ship "Brilliant" leaves to-morrow.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 62.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 29, 1907.)

SIR, Foreign Office, January 28, 1907.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant,* and to state that His Majesty's Consul at Panama has already been instructed by telegraph to thank the authorities of the Panama Canal for sending a steamer to Jamaica with supplies and tents.

Mr. Howard, His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington, was at the same time instructed to convey to the American Government the cordial appreciation of His Majesty's Government for their prompt and valuable assistance in this respect.

I am, &c.,
ERIC BARRINGTON.

No. 63.

THE LORD PROVOST OF EDINBURGH to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 29, 1907.)

[*Answered by No. 74.*]

MY LORD, City Chambers, Edinburgh, January 28, 1907.

I BEG to inform you that I have opened a fund here for the relief of the sufferers by the distress caused through the recent earthquake in Jamaica. The subscriptions received up till now amount to about fourteen hundred pounds (£1,400). I am anxious that the amount should be applied at once for the relief of the sufferers, and if your Lordship will be good enough to inform me that you are prepared to receive a sum of one thousand pounds (£1,000), and to arrange for its being so applied, I shall have pleasure in sending you a bank order for this amount.

I am, &c.,
JAMES P. GIBSON,
Lord Provost.

No. 64.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.5 a.m., January 29, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Respectfully suggest that you convey thanks to Government of United States of America for supply tents just received.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 65.

COLONIAL OFFICE to FOREIGN OFFICE.

SIR, Downing Street, January 29, 1907.

WITH reference to your letter of the 28th instant,* and to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Earl of Elgin to transmit to you, to be laid before Secretary Sir Edward Grey, a copy of a telegram† received from the Governor of Jamaica requesting that the thanks of the Colonial Government may be conveyed to the Government of the United States of America for a supply of tents which had just been received in the Colony.

2. Lord Elgin will be glad if Sir E. Grey will cause the substance of Sir A. Swettenham's telegram to be conveyed to the proper quarter.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 66.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 6.25 p.m., January 29, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

January 28, evening. Total local contributions cash now £1,479 and £151 additional abroad to-day. Steamship "Oteri" arrived from Santiago with tents from United States Government very welcome and highly appreciated. French cruiser "D'Estrées" also arrived. Burials earthquake victims now total 602; earthquake patients Public Hospital to-day 248. Additional deaths reported: Dawson Stovell, at Constant Spring, A. Cumings and Williams Francis. District relief committees organised in many places. Free railway transport of local contributions to Kingston and destitute persons to friends in country continued. Schemes

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* No. 62. † No. 64.

for housing destitute and for rebuilding develop. Reports of damage to churches and schools and large houses in parishes adjoining Kingston continue to come.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 67.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received January 30, 1907.)

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers.

Foreign Office,
January 29, 1907.

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
1. Colombian Minister, January 16, 1907 ...	Jamaica Disaster— Messages of sympathy, &c.
2. To „ January 23, 1907 ...	
3. Uruguayan Minister, January 17, 1907 ...	
4. To „ January 26, 1907 ...	
5. Consul-General Hearn, Havre, January 21, 1907.	
6. To „ January 24, 1907 ...	
7. Minister for Foreign Affairs of Panama, January 21, 1907.	
8. To Minister of Foreign Affairs of Panama, January 24, 1937.	
9. Portuguese Chamber of Deputies, January 26, 1907.	
10. To Sir F. Villiers, Lisbon, January 28, 1907	

Enclosure 1 in No. 67.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE, Colombian Legation, January 16, 1907.

IT is with deep regret that I hear of the disaster which has overtaken the city of Kingston, Jamaica.

On behalf of my Government and of the members of the Legation I have the honour to request that Your Excellency will be so good as to convey to the King and accept for yourself the expression of our sympathy with His Majesty and His Majesty's Government on this occasion.

I have, &c.,
IGNACIO GUTIERREZ-PONCE.

Sir Edward Grey, Bart.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 2 in No. 67.

SIR, Foreign Office, January 23, 1907.

I HAVE not failed to lay before the King your note of the 16th instant, conveying the expression of your Government's sympathy on the occasion of the Jamaican disaster, and I have received His Majesty's commands to assure you that he is deeply grateful for this message.

I have, &c.,
E. GREY.

Senor Don Gutiérrez-Ponce,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 3 in No. 67.

Daniel Munoz, Uruguayan Minister, presents his compliments to His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and begs to express to His Majesty's Government his most sincere condolences on the occasion of the terrible disaster which has befallen on His Majesty's Colony of Jamaica.

London, the 17th January, 1907.

Enclosure 4 in No. 67.

SIR, Foreign Office, January 26, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 17th instant, conveying an expression of your Government's condolences on the occasion of the Jamaican disaster, and to assure you that His Majesty's Government are deeply grateful for this message.

I have, &c.,
E. GREY.

Monsieur Daniel Munoz,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 5 in No. 67.

SIR, British Consulate-General, Havre, January 21, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to enclose, herewith, a letter received from the Mayor of Havre in which he begs me, on behalf of the population of this town, to convey to His Majesty's Government an expression of sincere sympathy on the occasion of the disaster which has befallen the Island of Jamaica.

I have, &c.,
WALTER R. HEARN.

The Right Honourable
Sir Edward Grey, Bart., M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

MONSIEUR LE CONSUL GÉNÉRAL, Le Havre, le 19 Janvier, 1907.

LA catastrophe de la Jamaique cause au Havre la plus douloureuse impression : un pareil malheur ne pouvait, en raison de nos fréquents et excellents rapports avec l'Angleterre, manquer d'être particulièrement ressenti dans notre ville. Je m'empresse de vous adresser, dans cette funèbre circonstance, les profondes condoléances de la Ville du Havre, et je vous serai reconnaissant de vouloir bien transmettre ce sincère témoignage au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Veuillez agréer, &c.,
MAILLART.

Monsieur le Consul-Général
de sa Majesté Britannique,
5, Rue Edouard Larue.

Enclosure 6 in No. 67.

SIR, Foreign Office, January 24, 1907.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 21st instant, and, in reply, I am to request that you will cause an expression of thanks to be conveyed to the Mayor of Havre for his message of sympathy in connection with the recent disaster in Jamaica.

I am, &c.,
F. CAMPBELL.

W. R. Hearn, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c.,
Havre.

Enclosure 7 in No. 67.

MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, Panama, to Sir EDWARD GREY.

(Received 8 p.m., January 21.)

(Translation.)

Panama, January , 1907.

I request Your Excellency to convey to His Majesty the King the condolences of the Government and people of Panama on the calamity at Kingston. The social and commercial links which exist between Jamaica and Panamá give especial force to this sentiment.

Enclosure 8 in No. 67.

Sir E. GREY to the MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, Panama.

(January 24, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

The King commands me to express his best thanks for your sympathetic message respecting the calamity that has befallen his colony of Jamaica.

Enclosure 9 in No. 67.

(Translation.)

Telegram addressed to the King, dated Lisbon, 6.25 p.m., January 26.

I have the honour to inform Your Majesty that the Chamber of Deputies of the Portuguese nation has just voted by acclamation, and entered in the minutes of to-day's sitting, a resolution of profound regret at the destruction of the city of Kingston.

Doctor TEIXERA D'ABREA,
Vice-President.

Enclosure 10 in No. 67.

Sir E. GREY to Sir F. VILLIERS, Lisbon.

(January 27, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

The King has received a telegram from Dr. D'Abrea, Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies, announcing that the Chamber has passed a resolution recording their profound regret at the destruction of Kingston. His Majesty commands me to instruct you to express his warm appreciation of the sympathy evinced by the Chamber and the Portuguese Nation on this deplorable event.

No. 68.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.5 a.m., January 30, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

January 29. Addition to relief fund to-day:—local £15, abroad £56. Earthquake patients hospital 239 against 248 yesterday. French man-of-war "D'Estrées" arrived from Trinidad with offers of assistance; very gratefully acknowledged. Relief Committee delegate to Director of Public Works restoration of houses for poorer classes when expenditure [? from the] fund may not exceed £5 per family. Regular camp organized on Quebec lands to supersede, under proper supervision, temporary refuges on the racecourse.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 69.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.5 a.m., January 30, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

January 29. I send code translation of letter just received from His Majesty's Minister at Havana.—SWETTENHAM.

Letter, dated 18th January.

Have the honour to acknowledge receipt of following telegram from Your Excellency:—

"Kindly send immediately bandages, lint, and wool for those injured by earthquake at cost of Colony."

The message delivered to me 12.10 a.m., 16th January, and I at once repaired to the Palace and called Provisional Governor from bed. At my request he at once sent telegram to American Admiral Evans, Officer Commanding Squadron, Guantanamo, of which following is text:—"Earthquake Jamaica, great damage Kingston, Governor, Jamaica, cables His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, Havana:—Telegram quoted here, commencing: 'Kindly send.' Press account says 30 killed and over 300 wounded, if possible, please respond to call."—(Signed) BRITTAIN.

Same day following telegram sent to Your Excellency by me:—

"At my request Governor, Cuba, telegraphed to American Admiral, Guantanamo, to send torpedo boat Kingston with articles as requested."

And I to-day received following from Your Excellency, copy of which I immediately transmitted to the Provisional Governor:—

"Torpedo boat arrived; please convey hearty thanks to all concerned, including yourself and Governor, for sending needed supplies by torpedo boat to Kingston."

In answer, on the 17th January, Provisional Governor sent me copy of following telegrams by him, received from United States Foreign Secretary, Maine, viâ Guantanamo and Key West:—

Date, 16th January. Time, 2.15 p.m. "For Governor Magoon, Havana. Telegram reporting disaster Kingston, Jamaica, arrived, and battleships "Missouri" and "Indiana" will sail noon for Kingston.—(Signed) EVANS. Respectfully forwarded J. M. Bowyer. Commander U.S.N.S.O.P., United States Wireless Telegraph Service, Number 1 Station." Received from Guantanamo, 16th January. Time, 9.45 p.m. To Navigation Navy Department. Washington, D.C. "News disaster Kingston received to-day, through Governor Magoon, ask that supplies and assistance be sent; "Missouri," "Indiana," and "Whipple" sailed with Division Commander for Kingston noon to-day in response.—(Signed) EVANS, No. 2 Station." Received from Guantanamo. Time, 9.50 p.m. Associated Press, New York.

"Admiral Evans to-day, on learning Kingston disaster and needs, despatched battleships "Missouri," "Indiana," and Fleet Surgeon, under the command of Rear-Admiral Davis, to afford assistance. "Whipple" should arrive there to-night and battleships by daylight to-morrow morning."

In the overwhelming catastrophe which has befallen Kingston, people of Jamaica have sincere sympathy of myself and every other member of British Colony Havana.

No. 70.

THE GOVERNOR OF MALTA to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 4.15 p.m., January 30, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*See No.* 80.]

£250 voted by Council of Government in aid of sufferers Kingston; if you approve please inform Governor, Jamaica, and issue necessary instructions to Crown Agents for Colonies.—CLARKE.

No. 71.

MR. JESSE COLLINGS, M.P., AND OTHERS to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 1, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 96.]

MY LORD, S.S. "Port Kingston," January 31, 1907.

A FEW days after the catastrophe at Kingston, a full meeting of passengers was held on board the Royal Mail Steamship "Port Kingston," the Earl of Dudley presiding.

At that meeting certain resolutions* were adopted referring to incidents in connection with the earthquake, in which the owners, the captain, officers, engineers, and crew of the ship were concerned; and the Honorary Secretary of the meeting was requested to forward copies of the resolutions to the Colonial Office, the Board of Trade, and the Governor of Jamaica. These resolutions set forth in general terms the occurrences during the eventful night of Monday, the 14th of January, and the following days; but we feel that some details based on the testimony of eye-witnesses and others cognisant of the facts may be desirable.

Sir Alfred Jones, at once realising the seriousness of the disaster, promptly placed the ship with her staff, stores, and appliances at the service of the wounded and the refugees. During the night of the 14th, the "Port Kingston" became a veritable hospital ship. The spacious well-decks forward and aft, and all other available spaces were closely packed with the injured and dying brought on board, many of them terribly mutilated. The poor sufferers, laid on mattresses, received the most careful and tender attention from all sections of the ship's company—stewards, stewardesses, ordinary sailors (boys and men), firemen and coal-trimmers, while the carpenter was busy making splints.

Dr. Arthur Evans, the ship's surgeon, worked steadily throughout the night and following morning, performing operations, placing the broken limbs in splints, and easing the pain of the sufferers, of whom it is believed that not less than two hundred were so treated. Seventeen deaths took place on board during the night.

Besides the wounded several hundred refugees were received on board. These included men and women of all classes and colours who were not injured, but who were homeless, while many of them had lost relatives, and were in extreme distress. These were all freely supplied with food and shelter, and a number of them remained on board till the Wednesday.

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* Enclosure in No. 76.

On Thursday morning a company of about 70 men, composed of the ship's crew, under the command of the Chief Officer (Lieutenant J. G. Little, R.N.R.), marched into the town, and did good service in taking precautions against looting, in searching the ruins for the dead, and in rendering such other help as they could.

Similar letters are being addressed to the Board of Trade and the Governor of Jamaica.

We beg, &c.,
JESSE COLLINGS.
W. HOWELL DAVIES.
THOMAS HUGHES.
H. COTTERELL.
R. Y. SIDEBOTTOM.
R. MOOR.
CHAS. LANCASTER.
HAMAR GREENWOOD.
J. DODS SHAW.
J. HENNIKER HEATON.
JOHN MacGILLICUDDY.

No. 72.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 1, 1907.)

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned papers.

Foreign Office,
January 31, 1907.

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURES.

Name and Date.	Subject.
(1) Japanese Ambassador, January 19th, 1907 ...	Messages of sympathy with regard to Jamaica Disaster.
(2) To Japanese Ambassador, January 26th, 1907	
(3) President of Hayti, January 20th, 1907 ...	
(4) To President of Hayti, January 21st, 1907 ...	
(5) Haytian Minister, January 22nd, 1907 ...	
(6) To Haytian Minister, January 26th, 1907 ...	
(7) Spanish Minister, January 19th, 1907 ...	
(8) To Spanish Minister, January 31st, 1907 ...	
(9) Sir A. Hardinge, Brussels, January 26th, 1907	
(10) President of Venezuela, January 29th, 1907	
(11) To President of Venezuela, January 29th, 1907	
(12) Venezuelan Consul-General, January 17th, 1907.	
(13) To Venezuelan Consul-General, January 31st, 1907.	

Enclosure 1 in No. 72.

SIR, Japanese Embassy, London, January 19, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have just received the following telegram from Viscount Hayashi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

His Majesty the Emperor has received with deep sorrow the news of the great calamity that has befallen the Island of Jamaica, and has commanded me to convey to His Majesty the King and to the British nation the assurance of his heartfelt sympathy. You will take steps for the delivery of the Imperial message.

I beg, therefore, to request that you will be so good as to convey to the High destination the communication above stated.

I have, &c.,
JUTARO KOMURA.

Sir Edward Grey, Bart., M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 2 in No. 72.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, Foreign Office, January 26, 1907.

I DULY laid before the King your note of the 19th instant, in which you communicated to me a copy of the telegram expressing the deep sorrow with which His Majesty the Emperor of Japan received the news of the calamity which has befallen the Island of Jamaica, and his heartfelt sympathy with the King and the British nation.

The King commands me to request Your Excellency to be so good as to ask Viscount Hayashi to convey to the Emperor of Japan his sincere thanks for the kind message of condolence and sympathy which His Imperial Majesty has sent to him on this sad event.

I have, &c.,
(For the Secretary of State),
F. A. CAMPBELL.

His Excellency Baron Komura,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 3 in No. 72.

The PRESIDENT OF HAYTI to the KING.

(Dated January 20, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Meilleures condoléances catastrophe Kingston.

Enclosure 4 in No. 72.

The KING to the PRESIDENT OF HAYTI.

(Dated January 21, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Je vous prie d'accepter mes meilleurs remerciments pour votre sympathie dans le désastre que vient d'éprouver ma Colonie de Jamaique.

Enclosure 5 in No. 72.

Artillery Mansions, 75, Victoria Street, Westminster,
MONSIEUR LE SECRÉTAIRE D'ÉTAT, Londres, S.W., le 22 Janvier, 1907.

JE viens de recevoir, par l'intermédiaire de Monsieur le Ministre des Relations Extérieures, le télégramme suivant de Son Excellence le Président d'Haiti:

"Le Président s'empresse d'offrir à Sa Majesté l'expression de Sa Très-Haute sympathie et de sa douleur, à l'occasion de la catastrophe de la Jamaique."

C'est avec empressement que j'ai l'honneur de transmettre ce télégramme à Votre Département en mettant à contribution l'extrême obligeance de Votre Excellence, pour le présenter au bienveillant accueil de Sa Majesté.

Dans la circonstance présente de deuil, la Légation Haitienne s'associe de coeur à la manifestation de Son Excellence le Président d'Haiti.

En attendant, je viens prier, &c.,

DR. SÉNÈQUE VIARD.

Sir Edward Grey, Bart., M.P.,
&c. &c., &c.

Enclosure 6 in No. 72.

SIR, Foreign Office, January 26, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 22nd instant, in which you convey the condolences of the President of Hayti to the King on the occasion of the disaster which has befallen His Majesty's Colony of Jamaica.

I have the honour to inform you, in reply, that the King received a message direct from the President, to which His Majesty returned the following reply:—

"Je vous prie d'accepter mes meilleurs remerciments your votre sympathie dans le désastre que vient d'éprouver ma Colonie de Jamaique."

I have, at the same time, the honour to express the thanks of His Majesty's Government for the sympathy of the Haytian Legation in this great calamity.

I have, &c.,
E. GREY.

Dr. Sénèque Viard,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 7 in No. 72.

(Translation.)

SENOR MINISTRO, Spanish Embassy, London, January 19, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to inform Your Excellency by special direction of my Government of the deep and painful impression which has been made in Spain, both on the King and Queen, and on the Government and entire nation, by the said disasters which have occurred in Jamaica and especially at Kingston.

While informing Your Excellency of this I am instructed to apprise you of the very great grief which is felt throughout Spain at the melancholy events which are to-day so profoundly moving the British Empire, and I am to request you to convey to His Majesty the King, to His Majesty's Government, and to the English nation the deep sympathy of the Spanish Government.

I have, &c.,
VILLALOBAR.

Sir E. Grey, Bart., M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 8 in No. 72.

SIR, Foreign Office, January 31, 1907.

I DULY laid before the King the note which you addressed to me on the 19th instant, informing me of the sorrow with which the news of the disaster which has befallen the Island of Jamaica has been received by their Majesties the King and Queen of Spain, and by the Spanish people generally, and expressing the deep sympathy of the Spanish Government with His Majesty, His Majesty's Government, and the British nation.

The King commands me to request that you will be so good as to convey to the Spanish Government His Majesty's sincere thanks for their kind message of condolence on this sad event, and to express His cordial appreciation of the sympathy with this country which has been manifested throughout the Kingdom of Spain.

I have, &c.,
E. GREY.

The Marquis de Villalobar,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 9 in No. 72.

SIR, Brussels, January 26, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that as directed in your despatch of the 23rd instant, I have conveyed to Monsieur de Favereau your thanks for his condolences and those of Count de Lalaing on the earthquake at Kingston.

I have, &c.,
ARTHUR H. HARDINGE.

The Right Honourable Sir Edward Grey, Bart., M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 10 in No. 72.

PRESIDENT CASTRO to the KING.

(January 29, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Nacion Venezolana y mi gobierno comparten sentimiento de justa pena de vuestra magestad y pueblo ingles por la catastrofe Kingston, Jamaica, vuestro amigo.

Enclosure 11 in No. 72.

The KING to PRESIDENT CASTRO.

(January 29, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

I beg Your Excellency and the Venezuelan nation to accept my sincere thanks for the sympathy conveyed in your message of to-day on the catastrophe that has befallen my Colony of Jamaica.

Enclosure 12 in No. 72.

(Translation.)

The undersigned, Consul-General for Venezuela, presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs him to inform His

Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the sympathy of His Excellency General Cipriano Castro, Restorer of Venezuela and President of the Republic, of his Government, and of the Venezuelan nation in the affliction from which the British nation is suffering in the catastrophe in Jamaica.

The undersigned adds his own sympathy to that of his Government, and has the honour to avail himself, &c.

CARLOS A. VILLANUEVA.

Consulate-General of Venezuela,
London, January 17, 1907.

Enclosure 13 in No. 72.

SIR, Foreign Office, January 31, 1907.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, in which you convey the condolences of the President and the Government and people of the United States of Venezuela on the occasion of the late catastrophe in Jamaica.

I am to request that you will be so good as to convey to General Castro, your Government, and the Venezuelan nation the cordial thanks of His Majesty's Government for this message of sympathy.

I am, &c.,
F. A. CAMPBELL.

Monsieur Villanueva,
&c., &c., &c.

No. 73.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 4.47 p.m., January 31, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

January 30. Burials earthquake victims reported to 27th January, 603. Total earthquake patients: Public Hospital, 232; Spanish Town Hospital, 31. Contributions to Relief Fund from abroad to-day, £481 from Trinidad "Mirror." Tramcars running everywhere except in burnt area. West India and Panama Cable Company now receiving messages in Kingston. Slight shocks continue. Weather remains fine, but threatens rain. Repairs of buildings proceeding with great activity.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 74.

COLONIAL OFFICE to THE LORD PROVOST OF EDINBURGH.

[*Answered by No.* 82.]

MY LORD, Downing Street, January 31, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of, and to thank your Lordship for, your letter of the 28th of January,* reporting that you have opened a fund in Edinburgh for the relief of the sufferers by the recent earthquake in Jamaica.

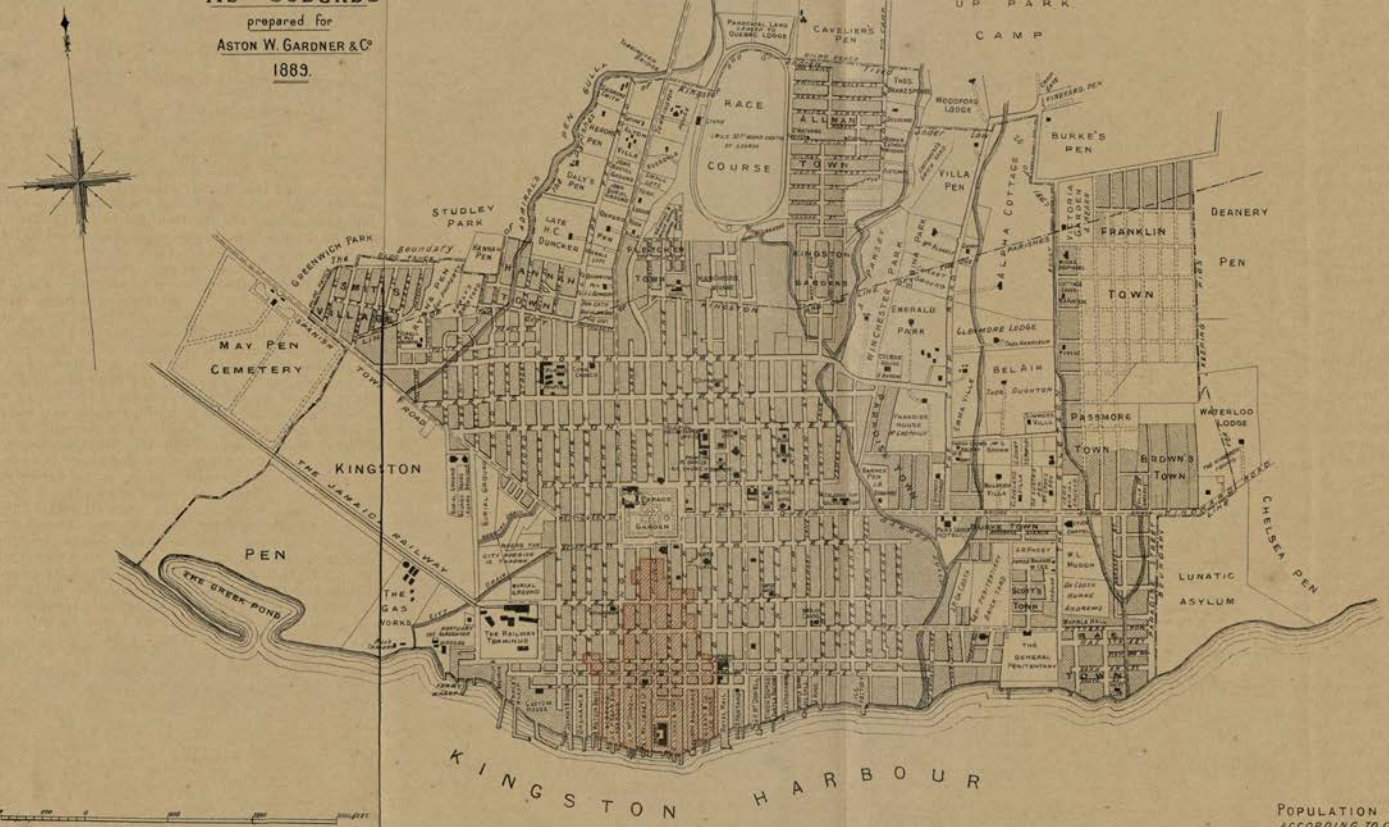
2. Lord Elgin will be glad if the amount now available, and any further sums which the generosity of the City of Edinburgh may provide, may be paid to the credit

* No. 63.

Plan of THE CITY OF KINGSTON AND ITS SUBURBS

prepared for
ASTON W. GARDNER & Co
1889.

Kingston was laid out by Sir William Beeston in 1696 and the settlement was caused by the almost entire destruction of Port Royal on the 7th June 1692.
Height of the bottom of the Race Course above the Sea 185 feet
Centre of Parade is the Sea 36 feet
The distance from the Foot of East Street to the bottom of the Race Course is 1 mile & 5 chains.
Total length of Queen Street from the Spanish Town Road to Paradise Street 1 mile & 25 chains.



Note. The tramway lines of the Jamaica Street Car Co are shewn by dotted lines thus. - - - - - -

BURNT AREA in Red 56 Acres.

POPULATION OF KINGSTON
ACCORDING TO CENSUS OF 1881

WHITE	5,083
COLOURED	14,323
BLACK	19,160
Total	38,566

Weller & Graham, Lith. London

of the Jamaica Government with the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W.

3. Lord Elgin is communicating a copy of your letter to the Colonial Government.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 75.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 1, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 90.]

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, January 18, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 16th instant,* relating to the disastrous earthquake which has occurred here, and on behalf of the Colony to thank you and His Majesty's Government for the sympathy which you have expressed with the Colony and with the individual sufferers. I have also to confirm my telegrams of the 15th and 16th instant† and to report some details of the earthquake. The damage done has been mainly confined to the three parishes of Kingston, Port Royal, and St. Andrew. I have, however, been informed that the hospital at Morant Bay in St. Thomas has suffered. The fire in Kingston having now ceased, the task of cleaning the streets is proceeding. The difficulty of removing dead bodies of horses as well as human beings was increased by the presence of the crowds which for a long time it was impracticable to exclude from the burnt area. I enclose a map of Kingston, on which that area is indicated by being surrounded by a red line. It consists of 56 acres. It includes practically the whole of the business portion of the town, and most of the wharves. Those owned by the Government and one belonging to the Royal Mail Company are left. The greater part of the foreign food supplies have been destroyed by the fire and the stocks in the retail shops beyond the area of burning have been reduced by looting. Three stores in central positions are, however, now carrying on business under police protection, and a fourth is being opened by the Government itself. At all these stores food will be sold at ordinary prices and either cash or orders representing wages for work done will be accepted. Help, in the way of supplies, is being received from Port Antonio, Montego Bay, and other parts of the island, from Cuba (with the kind assistance of the American Admiral), and I think that any difficulty in purchasing necessaries will not long continue. Free distribution of food will be confined, as much as possible, to the ordinary parochial machinery and to a Committee of Ministers of Religion, with some lay assistance, under the presidency of the Archbishop. I have, in my telegram, referred to the great assistance given by Sir Alfred Jones and the "Port Kingston," and also to that rendered by Dr. Bucher of the Logwood Dye Works Company of Spanish Town, and by the General Officer Commanding and others. In my telegram I have also reported that among the killed are:—

Sir James Fergusson, Bart.
J. W. Middleton.
A. McD. Nathan.
E. de Cordova.
J. R. Mudon.
W. A. Payne.
Dr. Gibb.
R. W. Bradley.
B. Verley.

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* No. 3. † Nos. 1 and 9.

W. George.
H. Burrows.
C. M. Sherlock.
E. Morrice.
Captain Constantine (Royal Mail Agent).
Miss Lockett.
Miss Henderson.
Miss Rose Levy.

To these I regret I have to add Captain Young, of the S.S. "Arno," and Mr. Seymour, Locomotive Superintendent on the railway.

The names of military casualties, so far as ascertained at present, have been telegraphed to the War Office by the General Officer Commanding. To these must be added the name of No. 604, Sapper R. Warburton, killed at Port Royal, where, as far as is known, only three deaths have occurred, save Mr. Seymour.

No English officials have been killed or seriously injured, but Mrs. Wedderburn, the wife of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, and Mrs. Constantine, whose husband has perished, are both suffering from fractured limbs.

I telegraphed yesterday reporting that the body of Sir James Fergusson was discovered, buried in the wreck of a cigar store. He was interred yesterday in the churchyard at Half-Way Tree; I was present with Mr. Gerald Loder and Colonel Vans Agnew. I requested you to kindly inform his relatives. By the earthquake both cable offices were completely wrecked and by the fire rendered unapproachable, consequently, both cables were useless at Kingston. The Direct Line, which takes the sea at Bull Bay was broken about three miles from shore and proved beyond our local powers to repair. The West India and Panama were restored to working order yesterday at a distance of eight miles from Kingston. The burials up to noon on the 16th instant comprised 343 persons, and the total number of deaths is, I estimate, under 500. A large number of the houseless population is encamped in the Parade Gardens and on the racecourse. In the fine weather which prevails at present, and which will probably last for a month at least, the need of tents is not very urgently felt.

Practically all the Government buildings in Kingston are uninhabitable and require complete or partial rebuilding. At the present time the bonded rum store contains about 3,000 puncheons of rum, which are protected by a small guard, and which are standing in the ruins of the building. The various departments are carrying on their work for the moment on the sites or in the outbuildings of their offices. The Bank of Nova Scotia and the Treasury are to be reopened as soon as the wrecked vaults can be opened.

In the interval the labour which is being employed has to be paid, to a great extent, in orders, which will be honoured at once at the protected stores or cashed in due course by the Bank of Nova Scotia. The Post Office is for the most part standing, but affords very inadequate facilities for the transaction of business. The postal service has, however, been partially resumed, and the Government Savings Bank will, it is expected, be opened to-day. The Supreme Court is, for the moment, located in an outbuilding of Headquarter House, and the Resident Magistrate's Court is about to resume sitting in some available room. An unfortunate effect of the earthquake is the partial destruction and disablement of the Plumb Point Lighthouse, near which the wreck of the "Prinzessen Victoria Luise" is lying. It is now reported that the absence of the light has resulted in another shipwreck, that of the "Prinz Waldemar"—both vessels belonging to the Hamburg-American line.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

No. 76.

MR. W. R. HALL CAINE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 4, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 97.]

MY LORD, 41, Queen's Gate Gardens, S.W., February 1, 1907.

I BEG to enclose six resolutions passed at a meeting of passengers on board the R.M.S. "Port Kingston," at sea, off Barbados, 21st January, 1907, the Right Hon. the Earl of Dudley in the Chair.

A suggestion was made at the meeting that these resolutions should be amplified by further details, for your Lordship's information, but such suggestion did not form an instruction of the meeting. I have, however, incorporated in the enclosed statement of the proceedings a list giving the names of the mover and seconder of each resolution. These gentlemen were chosen that they might testify to those facts within their personal experience and observation. They would gladly provide any detailed information that might be desired and I shall be pleased to offer any aid in my power to that end.

I have, &c.,
W. RALPH HALL CAINE.

Enclosure in No. 76.

RESOLUTIONS passed at a Meeting of the Passengers on Board the R.M.S. "Port Kingston," at Sea, off Barbados, January 21, 1907.

The Righ Hon. the EARL OF DUDLEY in the Chair.

1st. Moved by Sir Thomas Hughes, seconded by Mr. Howell Davies, M.P., and resolved:—

"That this meeting desires to record its deep sense of the public services rendered by Sir Alfred Jones, K.C.M.G., personally, and on behalf of Messrs. Elder, Dempster and Company, in unreservedly placing the Company's steamer, all stores, appliances, and necessaries at the disposal of those suffering from the effects of the earthquake that took place at Kingston, Jamaica, on the 14th January last. They further express their gratitude to Sir Alfred Jones for the courage, calmness, and cheerfulness with which he has borne the great responsibilities imposed upon him during these days of loss and trial, and his solicitude, both for his fellow passengers and for the many persons of all ranks and classes with whom he has been brought into contact."

2nd. Moved by Sir Daniel Morris, K.C.M.G., &c., seconded by the Hon. B. Howell Jones, and resolved:—

"That this meeting desires to record its high appreciation of the self-sacrificing devotion of Dr. Arthur Evans, who, on the occasion of the earthquake, placed his professional services unreservedly at the disposal of the injured inhabitants of Kingston and who, through many trying hours, laboured unceasingly to save their lives and to alleviate their sufferings."

3rd. Moved by Mr. Hamar Greenwood, M.P., seconded by Mr. H. Cotterell, and resolved:—

"That this meeting desires to thank Dr. Neville Williams for the services he rendered to the sick and wounded both in the town and at the ship's side."

4th. Moved by the Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P., seconded by Sir Ralph Moore, K.C.M.G., and resolved:—

"That this meeting expresses its gratitude to Nurse Sarah Cross and to all those members of the ship's company who assisted in the task of treating

the wounded and of administering surgical and medical aid under the direction of Dr. Evans. The meeting recognises the great devotion with which all those referred to performed an unaccustomed and trying duty under difficult circumstances."

5th. Moved by the Right Hon. [H. O.] Arnold-Forster, M.P., seconded by Mr. Charles Lancaster, and resolved:—

"That this meeting recognises with pride and gratification the courage and devotion displayed by Captain Parsons, the officers and crew of the "Port Kingston," all of whom in their order and degree rendered effective service in succouring the wounded, in comforting the distressed, in safeguarding public property, and in performing the many arduous duties imposed upon them during a period of exceptional stress."

6th. Moved by Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., seconded by Mr. J. Thompson, and resolved:—

"Resolved that copies of these resolutions be sent to His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Right Hon. the President of the Board of Trade, His Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, Sir Alfred Jones, K.C.M.G., Dr. Neville Williams, and Nurse Cross; also to Captain Parsons, Dr. Arthur Evans, Mr. Little, and all the officers and men of the R.M.S. "Port Kingston"; as a testimony of the esteem in which they are held by the passengers, and as a memorial of the occasion on which they rendered such signal service."

The meeting further determined on the nomination of the Chairman to empower Mr. W. Ralph Hall Caine to carry out the foregoing resolutions, and Lord Dudley, in communicating the thanks of the passengers to Mr. W. R. Hall Caine and Mr. Arnold-Forster for drawing up the plan of proceedings, authorized Mr. W. R. Hall Caine to convey the resolutions to the Press as soon as official custom would deem suitable.

No. 77.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 2, 1907.)

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
February 1, 1907.

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
His Majesty's Consul General, New York, January 22.	Earthquake at Kingston, Jamaica.

Enclosure in No. 77.

SIR, New York, January 22, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that on receipt of the news of the earthquake in Jamaica, several gentlemen interested in trade and commerce with the island

discussed the means that might be adopted for affording relief to the sufferers, if such should be acceptable, and formed a temporary Committee for that purpose. Some of the members of this Committee called upon me yesterday and stated that a cable message had been sent on the 16th instant to the Governor of Jamaica by three different routes, namely, to himself direct, through the Colonial Office in London, and through His Majesty's Legation at Havana, asking if aid would be acceptable and what form it should take; that the receipt of this message had been acknowledged by the Colonial Office, with the intimation that it would be forwarded at once to the Governor, but that no reply of any kind had been received from the Governor, and that the Committee were at a loss to know how to act.

The newspapers were full of accounts of the manner in which further aid from the United States warships had been declined by the Governor; while it was stated that the Mayor of New York received a telegram purporting to be signed by the "Mayor, Jamaica," asking for help, and stating "Money, lumber, and building materials were most urgently needed."

Under these circumstances, I addressed a telegram yesterday to the Foreign Office stating the position in which the Relief Committee were placed, and wrote to the Governor by the "Atrato," leaving the same day, informing His Excellency of my having done so, as it seemed doubtful whether messages sent to him direct from New York were reaching their destination. In this despatch I drew attention to the position in which the Committee were placed, and mentioned that the Standard Oil Company had contributed two thousand five hundred dollars, and that other contributions were being offered.

The Committee have this afternoon shown me a telegram which they have received from the Governor in the following terms:—

> "Hearty thanks for your sympathy, except for rebuilding funds whole supplies ample."

As rebuilding would hardly be within their province, it is probable that on receipt of a confirmation of this telegram by mail the Committee will be dissolved.

I have, &c.,
PERCY SANDERSON.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for Foreign Affairs.

No. 78.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 1, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

January 31. Total burials earthquake victims Kingston to 28th January, 606; total number of earthquake patients public hospital to-day, 222. Relief funds from local sources now amount to £1,689. Director of Public Works reports main road bridges Jamaica have not sustained serious damage from earthquake, and all main roads safe for traffic.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 79.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 7.50 a.m., February 2, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Total number of earthquake patients to-day 219. No deaths hospital reported.

Relief Committee now arranging relief through District Committees. Weather still fine. No more shocks.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 80.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.30 a.m., February 3, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Please inform Governor of Malta Government of Jamaica very gratefully accepts.*—SWETTENHAM.

No. 81.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 6 p.m., February 3, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

February 2. Earthquake patients to day at hospital 220 (?); no deaths; burials up to date, 607. Death of Private Paisome 2nd Battalion West India Regiment reported. Relief funds remittances received from abroad £22,336, contributed locally £1,943. Several meetings of citizens to discuss restoration work. No more shocks. I propose to cease daily reports by telegraph.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 82.

THE LORD PROVOST OF EDINBURGH to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 4, 1907.)

City Chambers, Edinburgh, February , 1907.

Edinburgh Fund for the Relief of the Sufferers by the Earthquake in Jamaica.

SIR,

I BEG to thank you for your letter of the 31st ultimo† with reference to the application of the fund which I have opened in Edinburgh for the relief of the sufferers by the recent earthquake in Jamaica.

I shall be glad if you will intimate to Lord Elgin that I have asked the City Chamberlain of Edinburgh, as Honorary Treasurer of the Edinburgh Fund, to remit to the Crown Agents for the Colonies at Whitehall Gardens, for the credit of the Jamaica Government, the proceeds of the fund collected here.

I am, &c.,
JAMES P. GIBSON,
Lord Provost.

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* See No. 70.

† No. 74.

No. 83.

THE GOVERNOR OF TRINIDAD to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 4, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 101.]

MY LORD, Government House, January 19, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that the news of the terrible disaster which befell Kingston, Jamaica, on the 14th instant, first reached this Colony on the afternoon of the 15th instant, but no details, giving any idea of its magnitude or extent, were received until late that evening. On the following morning I summoned an emergency meeting of the Legislative Council, at which a preliminary grant of £1,500 was at once voted, and the Governor was authorized to expend the money in any way which later information might seem to render most expedient.

2. Shortly after the meeting a further telegram was received stating that all stores were destroyed, that the people were camping out, that a famine was imminent, and that the most pressing need was for provisions.

3. I named a small Committee, consisting of the Colonial Secretary as Chairman, and Messrs. G. Goodwille and S. Henderson as Members, and these gentlemen selected foodstuffs, medical comforts, ready-made clothing, and blankets, up to the value of about $6,000, and all these were shipped the same afternoon on H.M.S. "Indefatigable," which left in the course of the night for Jamaica. A larger supply would have been sent but the ship could not accept any more.

4. The unofficial members of the Legislature expressed a strong desire to assist the sufferers in Jamaica as liberally as our resources would allow, and the vote of £1,500 was only taken as a preliminary. In view of the ready response which the needs of the situation have already met both in the United States of America and the United Kingdom it seems unlikely now that much further assistance will be required, but in meantime I have the honour to submit the preliminary vote for your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.,
H. M. JACKSON,
Governor.

No. 84.

SIR W. J. SOULSBY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 5, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 87.]

SIR, The Mansion House, London, E.C., February 4, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Lord Mayor, as Treasurer of the Mansion House Fund for the relief of the sufferers by the earthquake in Jamaica, has to-day paid into the account of the Crown Agents for the Colonies at the Bank of England the sum of £25,000 which he and his Committee desire to be placed at the disposal, through the Governor of Jamaica, of the local Relief Committee for the alleviation of the distress in Kingston and the affected districts. Telegrams to the Governor and the Chairman of the Committee, informing them of this remittance, were sent this afternoon.

I also beg to intimate that a communication has been addressed to the Governor conveying the Committee's desire that the Fund should be administered by the local Relief Committee, in accordance with principles to be approved by His Excellency, and that the Fund should be applied as far as possible to assist in rebuilding.

I am, &c.,
WILLIAM J. SOULSBY.

No. 85.

THE GOVERNOR OF BRITISH HONDURAS to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 6.35 p.m., February 5, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*See No.* 149.]

February 1. Legislative Council voted for grant of $1,000 for relief sufferers Kingston. If you approve, please instruct Crown Agents and inform Governor of Jamaica.—SWAYNE.

No. 86.

THE LORD PROVOST OF GLASGOW to THE EARL OF ELGIN.

(Received February 7, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 89.]

City Chambers, Glasgow, February 6, 1907.

The Earthquake Disaster in Jamaica.

MY LORD,

ON this day fortnight I opened a fund in Glasgow on behalf of the sufferers from the terrible disaster to the town and people of Kingston, and, as I mentioned to you on Monday, money has come in very well. I do not happen to know the best quarter to whom relief remittances should be sent, and it occurs to me that your Lordship may be not unwilling to do the subscribers and me the service and satisfaction of having the enclosed draft for £2,000 (a first instalment) forwarded to the proper authority in Jamaica.

I trust your Lordship will pardon the liberty I take in thus troubling you.

I have, &c.,
WILLIAM BILSLAND,
Lord Provost.

No. 87.

COLONIAL OFFICE to SIR W. J. SOULSBY.

SIR, Downing Street, February 6, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant,* stating that a further sum of £25,000 has been paid to the Crown Agents for the Colonies from the Mansion House Fund for the relief of the sufferers by the earthquake at Jamaica.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 88.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 7, 1907.)

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
February 6, 1907.

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* No. 84.

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Mr. Lowther, January 27th, 1907	Jamaica Disaster.

Enclosure in No. 88.

SIR, Tangier, January 27, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copy of a letter addressed to me by Vice-Admiral Touchard, in command of the French squadron at Tangier, on the occasion of the recent disaster in Jamaica.

I replied to the Admiral in suitable terms, thanking him for his courteous and sympathetic letter.

I have, &c.,
GERARD LOWTHER.

The Right Honourable
Sir E. Grey, Bt., M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Vice-Admiral TOUCHARD to Mr. LOWTHER.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE, "Suffren," le 18 Janvier, 1907.

LA catastrophe de Kingston (Jamaique) semble confirmée et je vous adresse à cet occasion mes condoléances. Mais la dépêche enregistre ce matin une nouvelle qui me parait heureusement invraisemblable. Que l'hôpital militaire ait brûlé c'est possible mais que les 240 hommes, marins sans doute pour la plupart, aient péri c'est ce que je ne saurais admettre, des hommes jeunes même malades pouvant toujours se sauver en pareille circonstance.

S'il en était malheureusement autrement et si votre glorieuse marine avait souffert cette perte cruelle, vous savez la part vraiment cordiale que tous, officiers et marins, nous prendrions à votre deuil.

Agréez, &c.,
Vice-Admiral TOUCHARD.

No. 89.

THE EARL OF ELGIN to THE LORD PROVOST OF GLASGOW.

MY LORD PROVOST, Downing Street, February 7, 1907.

I GRATEFULLY acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 6th instant* enclosing a draft for £2,000 (as a first instalment) derived from the very generous contributions of the people of Glasgow towards the relief of the sufferings caused by the recent earthquake in Jamaica. I will at once have the sum paid over to the account of the Jamaica Government to be added to the Relief Fund, and will inform the Governor of Jamaica.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

* No. 86.

No. 90.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

SIR, Downing Street, February 8, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 18th of January* confirming and amplifying the earlier particulars already sent by telegraph of the disastrous earthquake which occurred at Kingston on the 14th of the month.

2. I have been glad to receive your reports of the assistance rendered in this emergency by the General Officer Commanding, by Sir Alfred Jones, and the officers and crew of the "Port Kingston," and by Dr. Bucher of Spanish Town, and to learn from your telegram that orderly arrangements have been made for providing shelter for the poorer inhabitants of the city who have been rendered homeless, and for the prudent administration of the charitable relief which has been contributed.

3. It is gratifying to know that the United States Naval Authorities so promptly brought medical stores from Cuba, and offered other assistance; and the thanks of His Majesty's Government have been, at your request, conveyed to the United States Government for these good offices.

4. It is clear from the history of local events since the earthquake and from the direct testimony which has reached me through unofficial channels that the situation created has been dealt with by you with energy, courage, and firmness, and that Lady Swettenham has also worked devotedly for the relief of suffering. I desire to recognise, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the advantage of the example which you have set in this crisis, in which I feel confident that you have been loyally and assiduously seconded by the officers of the public service.

5. I trust that your efforts for the maintenance of order and the restoration of confidence are already bearing satisfactory fruit.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 91.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 11, 1907.)

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
February 8, 1907.

REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS LETTER.

Colonial Office, January 23.†

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
His Majesty's Consul-General, New York, January 25.	Earthquake at Kingston, Jamaica.

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* No. 75.

† No. 50.

Enclosure in No. 91.

SIR, January 25, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 22nd instant, on the subject of the New York Kingston Relief Fund, I have the honour to report that immediately on the receipt of your telegram of the same date, I communicated its substance to the Committee. In reply they have informed me that in addition to the telegram from the Governor previously quoted, they had received a further Government message as follows:—

"Harbour clear, supplies sufficient, except for rebuilding."

While these telegrams might be construed to indicate that further outside aid was not required, the wording was not sufficiently clear to warrant a definite interpretation in this sense. The Committee had already decided that they would await further advice by mail before dissolving, and the telegram from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs confirmed them in this view.

I have, &c.,

PERCY SANDERSON.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
For Foreign Affairs.

No. 92.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 11, 1907.)

MY LORD, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C., February 8, 1907.

WE have the honour to transmit to your Lordship three resolutions which were adopted at a specially convened meeting of the West India Committee held on February 4th.

In these resolutions the West India Committee records its appreciation of the behaviour of the community in Kingston, Jamaica, on the occasion of the recent earthquake, it deplores the policy which led to the withdrawal of the white troops from the West Indies, and the fleet from West Indian waters, and urges that His Majesty's advisers may take such steps as to obviate the recurrence of the serious danger to life and property which was involved through the failure of any British warship to arrive at Kingston until seven days after the earthquake on January 14th; and appeals to the Government to afford to the people of Jamaica such Imperial assistance in the form of an Imperial grant and loan at a low rate of interest of such an amount as will enable them to rebuild the city of Kingston on scientific lines as speedily as possible, and to re-establish the businesses of the store and shop keepers, many of whom have lost all they possessed and, consequently, their means of obtaining a livelihood.

We beg respectfully to say that in making these representations we are acting in full accord with the wishes of the people of Jamaica. The members of the Jamaica Relief Committee have already expressed to Mr. Olivier the reasons which, in our opinion, render it absolutely necessary to seek Imperial aid in this matter. It has been pointed out that the hope of recovering any money from the insurance companies is remote, and many of the storekeepers and shopkeepers have lost all they possessed and, consequently, their credit.

Trusting that your Lordship will be pleased to give these resolutions your most favourable consideration,

We have, &c.,

N. LUBBOCK,
Chairman.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL,
Secretary.

Enclosure in No. 92.

February 4, 1907.

Sir Nevile Lubbock presided over a meeting of the Executive of the West India Committee specially convened this afternoon to consider certain representations received from the Royal Jamaica Society of Agriculture and Commerce and Merchants' Exchange. It was resolved:—

That the West India Committee desires to place on record its most sympathetic appreciation of the exemplary behaviour of all classes of the community in Kingston, Jamaica, on the occasion of the recent earthquake, and their plucky and energetic efforts to cope with the situation arising therefrom.

That the West India Committee deeply deplores the policy which has led to the withdrawal of the white troops from the West Indies and the fleet from West Indian waters. The failure of any British warship to arrive until seven days after a disaster involves serious danger to life and property, and the Committee urges, therefore, that His Majesty's present advisers will take steps to obviate a recurrence of such a regrettable state of affairs, and will make such arrangements as will, in the event of future trouble or disaster prevent the Caribbean being deprived of British assistance.

That the West India Committee appeals to His Majesty's Government, following the precedent of 1898, when the island of Barbados was devastated by a hurricane, to afford to the people of Jamaica such Imperial assistance in the form of an Imperial grant and a loan at a low rate of interest of such an amount as will enable them to rebuild the city of Kingston on scientific lines as speedily as possible, and to re-establish the businesses of the store and shop keepers, many of whom have lost all they possessed, and, consequently, their means of obtaining a livelihood.

No. 93.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 9, 1907.)

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, January 22, 1907.

I HAVE already acknowledged by telegram the receipt through you of the King's gracious message of sympathy* with the people of Kingston.

2. I enclose copies of all the issues of the "Official Gazette"† which have appeared since the earthquake. The King's message was published in an Extraordinary issue of the 21st.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 93.

PROCLAMATION.

The Governor desires to express his profound sympathy with all persons who have lost relatives or friends by the calamity of the 14th instant.

Also for all those who have suffered in body or property by the same visitation.

He tenders his best thanks to all those who by their actions or example have devoted themselves to repairing the injuries suffered by all classes of people, and he calls upon all persons to take early action to repair the damage done.

His Excellency particularly thanks all those who by their steadiness and patience have rendered the task of the authorities easier in suppressing the fire and in keeping order.

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* See No. 5.

† Two only reprinted.

Food supplies are being sold at reasonable prices at the following shops:—

Dunn, in Orange Street.
Lee Hong, corner of Barry Street and Mark Lane.
D. C. Vaz (bread), corner of Orange Street and North Street.

A line of sentries has been posted round the burnt area, which no one will be permitted to enter without permission from the proper authorities.

J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

January 16, 1907.

Enclosure 2 in No. 93.

"THE JAMAICA GAZETTE (EXTRAORDINARY)," Thursday, January 17, 1907.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

It is hereby notified, for general information, that the S.S. "Port Kingston" will remain one day longer for commercial purposes.

It is hereby notified that the Gazette will be published daily for notifications of deaths due to the recent earthquake.

The Governor announces with great regret that up to noon on the 16th instant 343 persons had been buried as a result of the earthquake. It is also ascertained that 3 were killed at Port Royal. The names and places of interment of the dead, so far as ascertained, will be published to-morrow and information is invited in order to make the list as complete as possible.

By command,
H. CLARENCE BOURNE,
Colonial Secretary.

No. 94.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 11, 1907.)

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
February 9, 1907.

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Guatemalan Chargé d'Affaires, January 27, 1907 To ditto, February 7, 1907*	Jamaica disaster.

Enclosure 1 in No. 94.

(Translation.)

SIR, London, January 27, 1907.

THE disaster caused by the earthquakes in Jamaica has caused profound

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* Not printed.

regret in Guatemala and, now that the detailed telegrams in the Press permit of an accurate estimate of the extent of this catastrophe, I hasten to present to you, in the name of my Government, the expressions of their most sincere condolence and sympathy—sympathy which is all the more deep in consequence of the fact that the Republic was visited not long ago with similar calamities.

To the expression of the grief of the Government and people of Guatemala I venture to add the condolences of the Legation under my charge.

I have, &c.,
JOSÉ TIBLE MACHADO.

Sir E. Grey, Bart.,
&c., &c., &c.

No. 95.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 3 p.m., February 11, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 103.]

Tait, Mayor of Kingston, died to-day from earthquake injury.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 96.

COLONIAL OFFICE to MR. JESSE COLLINGS, M.P.

SIR, Downing Street, February 11, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of the letter of the 31st of January,* written on board the steamship "Port Kingston," and signed by yourself and ten other gentlemen, who were passengers from Jamaica on board that vessel, reporting the measures taken by the owners, the captain, the officers and the crew of the ship in connection with the earthquake at Kingston on the 14th of January.

2. Lord Elgin has read with great satisfaction this testimony to the valuable work done by Sir Alfred Jones and the officers and crew of the "Port Kingston" in tending the injured and alleviating the distress caused by the disaster.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 97.

COLONIAL OFFICE to MR. W. R. HALL CAINE.

SIR, Downing Street, February 11, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant,† enclosing copies of certain resolutions passed by the passengers on board the "Port Kingston" relative to the services of Sir Alfred Jones and the officers and crew of the vessel in connection with the earthquake at Kingston, Jamaica, on the 14th of January.

2. Lord Elgin has been glad to receive this testimony to the valuable assistance rendered by Sir Alfred Jones and the whole staff of the "Port Kingston" on the occasion of the disaster.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

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* No. 71. † No. 76.

No. 98.

THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 12, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 118.]

MY LORD, The Mansion House, London, E.C., February 11, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a cablegram from Archbishop Nuttall, the Chairman of the Local Relief Committee at Kingston, which was read at a meeting of the Mansion House Committee of the Earthquake Fund to-day.

The Mansion House Committee are anxious to know what amount, if any, is likely to be forthcoming from the Colonial or Imperial Government, towards making good the losses referred to (amounting to £1,600,000), as they feel that probable subscribers to the fund are hesitating, pending a decision on this point; moreover, the Committee find it difficult to determine how far the present amount subscribed, viz., £50,000, will go towards meeting the necessities of the case.

I have, &c.,
W. P. TRELOAR,
Lord Mayor.

Enclosure in No. 98.

TELEGRAM from Archbishop NUTTALL, received February 8th.

Warm thanks for telegram and notice of money available. Not drawing immediately. Using local gifts first. Relief proceeding. Indiscriminate food gifts to sufferers—at first necessary—now stopped. City divided into 10 districts. Fifty members of Committee aided by others making house-to-house visitation. Recording needs of inmates, so that each case can be carefully met. Provisions for sufficient temporary shelter of homeless complete to-day. Poorer people gradually getting back into houses being restored at small cost. Work on damaged buildings of middle classes waiting for material and passing of new building law regulating construction. Legislature dealing with this on 12th February. Larger work of Kingston now occupying careful attention. For this Imperial aid will be needed. Careful computation by separate Committee of business men shows loss on private buildings £1,600,000, exclusive of Government, municipal, and ecclesiastical buildings.

No. 99.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 6.20 p.m., February 12, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 103A.]

February 12. No. 2. In view of reports received through unofficial channels of extensive destitution likely to result from destruction of property in Kingston, whilst at the same time uncertainty has been created as to need of further charitable subscription, I shall be glad if you will, as soon as possible, favour me with your views, the substance of which may be published, on the economic situation resulting from the earthquake and the methods by which you contemplate that the houses and means of livelihood of the commercial and professional classes may be re-instated. The impression that this can only be effected on the basis of some general financial scheme arrests the liberality of those who might contribute funds which, in any event, may be needed for gratuitous relief. It is important on other accounts that I should know whether any such general financial scheme has been concerted, and whether you propose that Government should assume responsibility in regard to it; and if so, in what form, and to what extent.—ELGIN.

No. 100.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 13, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 102.]

SIR, Foreign Office, February 12, 1907.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you herewith, to be laid before the Earl of Elgin, a copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Consul-General at Port-au-Prince, relative to the steps taken by the Haytian Government to succour the sufferers in the recent catastrophe at Kingston, Jamaica.

In accordance with the request contained in the letter from your Department of the 24th ultimo,* Sir E. Grey proposes, with the concurrence of Lord Elgin, to instruct Mr. Vansittart by telegraph to express to the Haytian Minister for Foreign Affairs the cordial appreciation of His Majesty's Government for the generous assistance and warm sympathy afforded by the Haytian Government on this occasion.

A reply to this letter will be awaited before despatching the telegram, in case Lord Elgin should desire to make any addition to it in view of the fuller information now furnished by Mr. Vansittart.

I am, &c.,
ERIC BARRINGTON.

Enclosure in No. 100.

British Consulate-General, Port-au-Prince,

SIR, January 22, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith a note, together with my reply thereto, from the Haytian Secretary of State for Foreign relations informing me of the steps taken by his Government to succour the sufferers in the recent catastrophe which occurred at Kingston, Jamaica, on the 14th instant.

The German steamer "Presidente" arrived at Kingston immediately after the catastrophe, and, as at that particular moment all the cable lines were interrupted, the Governor of Jamaica availed himself of the opportunity to send me a batch of messages, per the captain of the ship, to be telegraphed on to England and the United States. The steamship "Presidente" reached Port-au-Prince on the afternoon of the 16th instant, and I immediately made arrangements with the French Cable Company to have the Governor's messages telegraphed to their destinations without delay. Unfortunately, the submarine cable between Port-au-Prince and Cape Haytien has not been in working order during the past five months, but I begged the Haytian Government to kindly keep their terrestrial telegraph line to the Cape free for the numerous messages received by the above-named steamer. I was informed that a clerk would be at work all through the night in order to expedite matters, and that the telegrams might reach their destinations on the following day, the 17th instant.

Immediately after the news of the disaster was known in this city, I received the visit of Mr. Sannon, who expressed to me the condolence of the Haytian Government at the sad event. I likewise received the visit of the Mayor, who expressed the condolence of the City of Port-au-Prince.

By the command of the President of the Republic orders were given to buy a stock of provisions, and the sum of 5,000 dollars was accorded, and a Commission appointed to hand over same to the Governor of Jamaica. The Haytian gunboat "Nord Alexis" left for Kingston on the evening of the 19th instant.

I called on the President on the morning of the 19th instant to express to His Excellency my sincere thanks for his generous and kindly aid, as well as the warm sympathy expressed on all sides for the sufferers in the calamity.

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* Not printed.

The prompt steps taken by the President and his Government to express their mark of sympathy to a neighbouring British Colony in distress have been very favourably commented upon amongst all circles in this city, and would indicate the friendly feeling existing for the British nation amongst Haytians in general.

The "Nord Alexis" will probably bring back to Port-au-Prince those Haytians who have been left entirely destitute in Jamaica. There is always a floating Colony of Haytians in Kingston, but principally consisting of exiles.

I have the honour to enclose herewith copy of a despatch I addressed to the Governor on the 18th instant.

I have, &c.,
A. G. VANSITTART.

Sir Edward Grey, Bart., M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

Port-au-Prince, le 18 Janvier, 1907.

MONSIEUR LE CONSUL-GÉNÉRAL,

IL m'est agréable de vous faire savoir que le Gouvernement de la République vient de nommer une Commission—dont font partie deux médecins de la Capitale, à l'effet d'apporter quelques secours aux victimes de la catastrophe que vient d'éprouver la ville de Kingston. Une valeur de cinq mille dollars en espèces, des provisions alimentaires, et des médicaments lui ont été confiés pour être remis au Gouverneur en faveur des sinistrés. Un navire du Gouvernement s'apprête à quitter au plus tôt pour Kingston.

En vous en avisant à telles fins que d'utilité, je profite de la circonstance pour vous renouveler, Monsieur le Consul-Général, &c.,

H. PAULÉUS SANNON.

Monsieur A. G. Vansittart,
Consul-Général de Sa Majesté Britannique
à Port-au-Prince.

British Consulate-General, Port-au-Prince, January 19, 1907.

MONSIEUR LE SECRÉTAIRE D'ETAT,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note of the 18th instant, in which you are good enough to inform me that the Haytian Government have named a Commission with a view to assist the victims of the catastrophe that has just occurred at Kingston, and that the sum of five thousand dollars, as well as provisions and medicaments, have been entrusted to the Commission to be handed over to the Governor of Jamaica for succouring the destitute.

I shall not fail, Monsieur le Secrétaire d'Etat, to bring to the notice of His Majesty's Government the generous aid accorded by your Government, and the kindly sympathy evinced by the authorities to the sufferers in the earthquake, as well as the sending of the Haytian gunboat "Nord Alexis" to Kingston by His Excellency the President.

I avail, &c.,
A. G. VANSITTART.

Mr. H. Pauléus Sannon,
Secrétaire d'Etat des Relations Extérieures,
Port-au-Prince.

SIR, British Consulate-General, Port-au-Prince, January 18, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to inform Your Excellency that I received, at 4 p.m., on the 16th instant, from the Captain of the German steamship "Presidente" a batch of

telegrams on the subject of the earthquake at Kingston, to be forwarded on to their destination at expense of Colony.

Unfortunately, the submarine French cable is cut between Port-au-Prince and Cape Haytien, but the terrestrial telegraph is in working order to the Cape. In order to expedite the transmission of the cables I immediately took steps that the one line open should be reserved for the transmission of Your Excellency's messages, and I am in hopes that as a clerk was at work during the whole of the night of the 16th instant, the cables would reach London some time on Thursday, the 17th instant.

As bills on Jamaica are not cashed in this city, I propose, with your sanction, drawing a bill at three days' sight on the Colonial Office, London, for the amount expended by me.

The Haytian gunboat "Nord Alexis" leaves for Kingston to-morrow morning at the President's command, and I understand she will carry provisions for the destitute and afflicted. Great sympathy is expressed in this city for the sufferers in the catastrophe.

I take this opportunity to express to Your Excellency my profound sympathy for the sad catastrophe that has befallen the Colony of Jamaica. I trust, though, that the reports circulated have been grossly exaggerated.

I have, &c.,
A. G. VANSITTART.

His Excellency
The Governor of Jamaica,
Kingston.

No. 101.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR OF TRINIDAD.

SIR, Downing Street, February 12, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 19th of January,* and to express my appreciation of the action of the Legislature of Trinidad in voting the sum of £1,500 for the relief of the sufferers from the earthquake in Jamaica, the vote of which amount I approve.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 102.

COLONIAL OFFICE to FOREIGN OFFICE.

SIR, Downing Street, February 13, 1907.

IN reply to your letter of the 12th of February,† I am directed by the Earl of Elgin to state, for the information of Sir E. Grey, that his Lordship concurs in the terms of the telegram which it is proposed to address to His Majesty's Consul-General at Port-au-Prince in acknowledgment of the steps taken by the Haytian Government to succour the sufferers in the recent earthquake at Kingston.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 103.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

SIR, Downing Street, February 13, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 10th February,‡ reporting the death of Mr. Tait, Mayor of Kingston, from an injury received in the earthquake.

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* No. 83. † No. 100. ‡ No. 95.

2. I have received this intelligence with much regret.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 103A.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 3.10 p.m., February 13, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Referring to your telegram, No. 2,* economic situation grave difficulty because of inadequacy of building societies. Restoration of the houses and means of livelihood of the commercial and professional classes best effected by private enterprise in my personal antiquated opinion always being beyond Government sphere of influence. Under new scheme approved by Archbishop, enclosed in my despatch of 11th February,† extra grant £150,000 Imperial funds and loan from Imperial funds £1,000,000 to owners of property essentially necessary (?)without any guarantee from Local Government.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 104.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 15, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 115.]

SIR, Foreign Office, February 14, 1907.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Consul at Havana, reporting on the steps taken at his instigation by the Provisional Governor of Cuba for the relief of the sufferers by the Jamaica earthquake.

Mr. Griffith seems to have acted in the matter with great promptitude, and Sir E. Grey proposes, therefore, to approve his action, and should Lord Elgin concur, to request him to convey an expression of the thanks of His Majesty's Government to the Provisional Governor and the Government of Cuba.

I am, &c.,
E. GORST.

Enclosure in No. 104.

His Britannic Majesty's Legation, Havana,

SIR, January 23, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that on the evening of the 15th instant, it was rumoured in Havana that an earthquake had occurred at Kingston, Jamaica; and about midnight I received a telegram from the Governor of Jamaica, whereupon I at once repaired to the Palace, and found that the Provisional Governor had retired, but he cheerfully responded to my call, and, at my request, wrote a telegram, to Admiral Evans, in command of the United States Squadron at Guantanamo. Copies of these telegrams are enclosed.

On the 16th instant Governor Magoon sent me a copy of a telegram which he had received from Admiral Evans, and on the 17th instant I received a letter from the Provisional Governor transmitting a copy of a telegram sent by Admiral Evans on the 16th instant by radio-telegraphy to the Navigation Navy Department at Washington, and also a copy of a telegram sent to the Associated Press at New York by their Agent at Guantánamo.

I have, &c.,
G. W. E. GRIFFITH.

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* No. 99. † No. 137.

GOVERNOR OF JAMAICA to MR. GRIFFITH.

TELEGRAM.

Holland Bay, Jamaica, January 15, 1907. British Minister, Havana, Santiago, Cuba. Kindly send immediately bandages, lint, and wool for those injured by earthquake at cost of Colony.—GOVERNOR, Jamaica.

GOVERNOR OF CUBA to Admiral EVANS, United States Navy.

TELEGRAM.

Havana, January 15, 1907. To Admiral Evans, United States Navy, Commanding Squadron, Guantánamo, Cuba. Earthquake in Jamaica. Great damage at Kingston. Governor of Jamaica cables British Chargé d'Affaires in Havana "kindly send immediately bandages, lint, and wool for those injured by earthquake at cost of Colony." Press account says 30 killed and over 300 wounded. If possible please respond to call from Governor by sending needed supplies by torpedo boat to Kingston. Answer.—CHARLES E. MAGOON, Governor of Cuba.

Admiral EVANS, United States Navy, to GOVERNOR OF CUBA.

TELEGRAM.

Received from U.S.F.S. Maine viâ Guantánamo and Key West. Date, January 16, 1907. Time, 2.15 p.m. For Governor Magoon, Havana. Telegram reporting disaster Kingston, Jamaica, arrived; and battleship "Missouri" and "Indiana" will sail at noon for Kingston.—EVANS. Respectfully forwarded. J. M. Bowyer, Commander, United States Navy, S.O.P.

GOVERNOR OF CUBA to MR. GRIFFITH.

MY DEAR MR. GRIFFITH, Havana, Cuba, January 17, 1907.

I AM in receipt of advice from Admiral Evans, United States Navy, commanding the United States Naval Squadron at Guantánamo, that the first news received by him of the earthquake in Jamaica was my telegram, which was sent in response to your request. Complying with the suggestion contained in my telegram, the battleships "Missouri" and "Indiana," and the destroyer "Whipple" with medical supplies and fleet surgeons, under the command of Rear-Admiral Davis, were ordered to proceed to Kingston, and, upon arrival, render all possible assistance. The "Whipple" should have arrived at Kingston last night, and the two battleships early this morning.

I enclose you copy of despatch sent by Admiral Evans to the Navigation Bureau of the Navy Department at Washington, also copy of Associated Press despatch sent from Guantánamo.

I shall be very glad to render any other service, personally or officially, which is within my power.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES E. MAGOON
Provisional Governor.

Admiral EVANS, United States Navy, to NAVY DEPARTMENT, Washington.

TELEGRAM.

United States Navy, Wireless Telegraph Service, No. 1 Station. Received from Guantánamo, January 16. Time, 9.45 p.m. To Navigation, Navy Department, Washington, D.C. News disaster Kingston received to-day through Governor

Magoon asking that supplies and assistance be sent. "Missouri," "Indiana," and "Whipple" sailed with Division Commander for Kingston noon to-day in response.—EVANS.

ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT, Guantánamo, to NEW YORK.

TELEGRAM.

United States Navy, Wireless Telegraph Service, No. 2 Station. Received from Guantánamo. Time, 9.50 p.m. To Associated Press, New York. Admiral Evans to-day, upon learning of Kingston disaster and needs, despatched battleships "Missouri," "Indiana," and destroyer "Whipple" with medical supplies and fleet surgeons under command of Rear-Admiral Davis to render assistance. "Whipple" should arrive there to night, and battleships daylight to-morrow morning.—BRITTAIN.

No. 104A.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8 a.m., February 15, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 107.]

Legislative Council to-day resolved that, being firmly convinced that without Imperial aid it will be impossible to restore City of Kingston and Lower Liguanea, desires to place on record its earnest request that, in the interests of the Colony, Government of Jamaica will make urgent representations as to the urgent necessity for an Imperial grant and loan. I can strongly recommend, always provided that local guaranty not required.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 105.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 16, 1907.)

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
February 15, 1907.

REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS LETTER.

Foreign Office, February 8.*

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
His Majesty's Consul-General, New York, February 4.	Jamaica Earthquake.

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* No. 91.

Enclosure in No. 105.

SIR, February 4, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch, No. 4, of the 25th ultimo, I have the honour to enclose copies of correspondence relative to the New York-Kingston Relief Committee, and of a request from, and my reply to, natives of the West Indies resident in New York.

I have, &c.,
PERCY SANDERSON.

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
For Foreign Affairs.

22, State Street, New York, February 1, 1907.

New York-Kingston Relief Fund.

MY DEAR SIR PERCY,

At a meeting held this morning, it was decided that the Relief Committee should disband, and that all subscriptions be returned to the donors, with the grateful thanks of the members of the Relief Committee.

I will send you a copy of the minutes as soon as I receive them.

Yours, &c.,
L. B. SANDERSON.

Sir Percy Sanderson, K.C.M.G.,
His Britannic Majesty's Consul-General,
17, State Street, New York.

SIR, January 29, 1907.

WE, the undersigned subjects of Great Britain, and natives of the Island of Jamaica, British West Indies, which has recently been visited by earthquake and fire, causing the destruction of the City of Kingston, and the loss of hundreds of lives, many of us having near relatives in the centre of this devastation, and are yet uncertain of their conditions, whether they are numbered among the dead, or living under precarious circumstances; and also knowing it is impossible at present to locate them by communications, we, therefore, deem it necessary and loyal to do something by way of aid for the people of the stricken City.

Not taking it for granted that further aid is not needed, as is announced by the press, and being cognizant of the nature, temperament, and conditions of our people, and should aid be even refused from foreign countries, we know that ours will be welcomed.

We have, therefore, come to you inviting your criticism on the matter hoping if it meet your approval that you will establish a "Relief Fund" at your office, or anywhere else, giving West Indians an opportunity of doing something for the relief of their suffering people.

We are prompted to action, not in pursuit of competition, but from the sense of unity rising to join in the relief movements, started by our people in other sections —Panama, Trinidad, and Hayti.

In doing this it will be necessary to announce the movement through the newspapers of the City, including, of course, the coloured papers of New York and Jersey City.

A delegate will wait upon you to learn your decision in the matter.

We have, &c.,
THOMAS N. LEASON.
CLARANCE W. ROBINSON.
ERNEST H. PULLY, Trinidad.
WM. GAYLE.
STEPHEN E. TAIT.

To His Britannic Majesty's Consul-General.

GENTLEMEN, February 1, 1907.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt yesterday of your letter, dated the 29th of January, stating that you "deem it necessary and loyal to do something by way of aid for the people" of Kingston, Jamaica, which City has recently been visited by earthquake and fire, and asking me to establish a "Relief Fund" at my office or elsewhere giving West Indians an opportunity of doing something for the relief of their suffering people. You further suggest that it will be necessary to announce the movement through the newspapers.

Immediately on the receipt of news of the calamity which has befallen Kingston "The New York-Kingston Relief Fund" was formed by those interested in trade and commerce with Jamaica, British merchants taking an important part, and the Committee being in close and frequent communication with this Consulate-General.

It has not appeared to me advisable to establish any independent or competing fund, and I have directed all intending subscribers to the Treasurer of that fund, Mr. L. B. Sanderson, of 21, State Street.

The Committee were informed. in reply to telegrams asking as to the disposition of funds in their hands, that the supplies were ample, and that funds were only required for rebuilding. They deferred taking action till further details were obtained, but having now received confirmation through private sources, they have to-day decided to return all subscriptions to the donors, and to dissolve.

I am prepared to take charge of, and to remit to, Jamaica, any sums of money that may be sent to me for that purpose, provided that it is clearly stated to whom the money is to be forwarded, but it does not appear to me that under the circumstances any good purpose will be served by establishing a fund or advertising in local newspapers.

I am, &c.,
PERCY SANDERSON.

Messrs. Leason, Robinson, Pully, Gayle, and Tait,
c/o Mr. Stephen E. Tait,
26, Grand Street, Jersey City.

No. 106.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 7.50 a.m., February 16, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Following resolution passed by Legislative Council, 14th February:—

"That this Council records its thanks to the Prime Minister, the Lord Mayor of London, and the people of Great Britain and Ireland, to the sister Colonies, to Canada, and the rest of the British Empire, to the United States, and to all foreign nations for their aid, sympathy, and support in the calamity which has befallen Kingston and St. Andrews."

—SWETTENHAM.

No. 107.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 5.30 p.m., February 16, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 117A.]

February 16. No. 4. Referring to your telegram of 14th February,* I understand that question of rebuilding is one of extreme urgency, and I wish to avoid

* No. 104A.

delay. Therefore I must be informed as soon as possible as to: (1) what administrative body, if any, it is proposed to constitute for the purpose; and (2) what amount of grant, and what amount of loan from Imperial funds you would desire to procure and on what terms and for what exact purposes.

I have not yet approached the Imperial Treasury on the subject, and you must bear in mind with reference to last paragraph of your telegram that Treasury are not likely to entertain any proposals for a loan unless Colonial Government accept liability.—ELGIN.

No. 108.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 5.30 p.m., February 16, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 113.]

February 16. No. 2. Referring to your telegram of 12th February,* if question of liability of insurance companies for damage caused by fire following earthquake has not yet been tested at law, can you arrange for an early decision of the Supreme Court through action of Attorney-General in a case favourable for argument?—ELGIN.

No. 109.

THE LORD MAYOR OF LIVERPOOL to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 19, 1907.)

MY LORD, The Town Hall, Liverpool, W., February 18, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that at a Meeting of the Committee formed to raise a fund for the relief of the people of Jamaica, held in the Town Hall this morning, a resolution was passed unanimously supporting the suggestion that a grant in aid of £150,000 from the Government for the relief of the people in Kingston, Jamaica, should be made.

I am, &c.,
JOHN JAPP,
Lord Mayor.

No. 110.

THE GOVERNOR OF BERMUDA to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 18, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 124.]

MY LORD, Government House, Bermuda, February 2, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter addressed by me on the 31st ultimo to the Governor of Jamaica informing him of the action taken by the Legislature of this Colony in placing at my disposal a sum of £200 to be forwarded to Jamaica, if required, to be devoted towards alleviating distress caused by the recent earthquake; and also offering the Colony of Jamaica a sum of £291 12s. 8d. collected in the Colony by public subscription towards the same object.

I have, &c.,
R. M. STEWART, Lieutenant-General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

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* No. 103A.

Enclosure in No. 110.

GOVERNOR, Bermuda, to GOVERNOR, Jamaica.

SIR, February 4, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith, copies of telegrams sent by me to Your Excellency on the 16th and 19th ultimo, together with copies of replies received from you.

In conveying to Your Excellency a confirmation of the expression of deep sympathy felt for the Government and people of Jamaica by this Colony, it affords me much pleasure to inform you that the Legislature of Bermuda has placed a sum of £200 at my disposal to be forwarded to Jamaica, if required, to be devoted towards alleviating the distress caused by the earthquake; and also that public subscriptions opened by the Mayor of the City of Hamilton and by the Mayor of the Town of St. George's to which all classes of the community, including American visitors, have contributed, amount at the present date to £291 12s. 8d.

On behalf of the Legislature of Bermuda, and of the subscribers to the subscription lists referred to, I have the honour to enquire whether Your Excellency will, on behalf of the Colony of Jamaica, accept the grant from the Legislature, and also the amount realized by public subscription, to be devoted towards the relief of sufferers from the earthquake.

I have, &c.,
R. M. STEWART, Lieutenant-General,
Governor, and Commander-in-Chief.

His Excellency
Sir J. A. Swettenham, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of Jamaica.

GOVERNOR OF BERMUDA to GOVERNOR OF JAMAICA.

TELEGRAM.

January 16, 1907. Have heard with deep regret to-day indefinite news of serious disaster Kingston. "Brilliant" leaves as soon as possible with two officers, Royal Army Medical Corps, four men, medical stores, and tent equipment, and other stores. Please inform me whether I can render further assistance.

GOVERNOR OF BERMUDA to GOVERNOR OF JAMAICA.

TELEGRAM.

January 19, 1907. At request of House of Assembly convey deep sympathy people of Bermuda for people Jamaica. Assembly willing to render every assistance. Please indicate what kind of assistance most acceptable.

GOVERNOR OF JAMAICA to GOVERNOR OF BERMUDA.

TELEGRAM.

January 21, 1907. Sincerely grateful for sympathy; further stores unnecessary.

GOVERNOR OF JAMAICA to GOVERNOR OF BERMUDA.

TELEGRAM.

January 24, 1907. Unnecessary at the present time.

No. 111.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 19, 1907.)

MY LORD, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C., February 18, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a telegram which has been received by the Mansion House Relief Committee and the West India Committee from Archbishop Nuttall, Chairman of the local Relief Committee in Kingston, Jamaica, on the subject of the losses incurred through the earthquake of January 14th, and the need of Imperial assistance.

In this telegram there appears to be a slight discrepancy, as the figures given for the separate items are not in agreement with the total sum, namely, £2,070,000, the difference amounting to £50,000. Possibly the mistake arises in the item "Government and Municipal Buildings, £10,000," as this figure falls so far short of the amount mentioned by the Governor in opening the Legislative Council on Tuesday, 12th February.

The local Relief Committee urge that an Imperial grant of £150,000 may be made to Jamaica to supplement charitable funds received for restoring buildings of the destitute, and, further, an Imperial loan of £1,000,000 for restoring the larger buildings.

This telegram was considered at a meeting of the Jamaica Relief Sub-Committee this afternoon, and I was instructed to inform your Lordship that this request of the local Relief Committee has our full support, and we trust that His Majesty's Government may see their way to accede to it.

I have, &c.,
ALGERNON E. ASPINALL,
Secretary.

Enclosure in No. 111.

TELEGRAM received on February 16, 1907.

ARCHBISHOP says LORD MAYOR, London:—

"Synopsis careful approximate reports made to me by experienced business men from which I have deducted 15 per cent. total loss of buildings in burnt area, £500,000; loss on private buildings in the city of Kingston and the suburbs, which are in the parish of St. Andrew, £900,000; ecclesiastical buildings in Kingston, £60,000; Government and municipal buildings, £10,000; merchandise and personal property in burnt area, £500,000; ecclesiastical buildings out of Kingston, £30,000; other large buildings in other parishes, £20,000; total, £2,070,000. We are urging an Imperial grant of £150,000 to supplement charitable funds received for restoring buildings of destitute, also urging Imperial loan of £1,000,000 for restoring larger buildings, to be managed on business principles, providing for interest and redemption fund; particulars follow. Relief progressing on lines already reported. Inform West India Committee."

No. 112.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 19, 1907.)

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 4, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram received here on the 22nd January,* informing me that the Relief Committee at New York had received no reply to their messages offering help to Jamaica, and asking me to communicate with them with a view to remittance of money already subscribed. I regret

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* No. 41.

that your telegram was, on its delivery at King's House, mislaid, and not placed in my hands until the evening of the 2nd of February. I may, however, explain that the Relief Committee's telegram, dated the 17th January, at New York, reached Jamaica only on the 20th, and on the 21st I telegraphed to them in reply "Hearty thanks for your sympathy. Except for rebuilding funds ample, supplies ample," and my telegram was published in American papers on the 22nd. I have now written to the Relief Committee through His Majesty's Consul-General at New York, who has corresponded with me on their behalf, the despatch of which a copy is enclosed.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 112.

From the GOVERNOR to HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S CONSUL-GENERAL, New York.

SIR, King's House, Jamaica, February 4, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 22nd and 24th January, relating to the Relief Fund opened in New York for the assistance of sufferers by the recent calamity in Jamaica. On the receipt of the telegram of the 17th January, from the Relief Committee, received here on the 20th, I telegraphed on the 21st to the Relief Committee expressing my gratitude on behalf of the Colony for the sympathy displayed by New York, and in reply to their enquiry as to the requirements of the people stated supplies were not wanted, and that no relief funds were necessary, except for the purpose of rebuilding. I believe my telegram appeared in some American newspapers on the 22nd.

In confirming my telegram I desire to repeat and emphasize the sincere gratitude which is felt by the sufferers, the Relief Committee here, and myself.

My telegram ran: "Except for rebuilding funds ample; supplies ample."

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

His Britannic Majesty's Consul-General,
New York.

No. 113.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 8.5 a.m., February 19, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

In answer to your telegram of 16th February, No. 2,* Colonial Government possesses no claim on insurance company, Attorney-General no *locus standi*. Claim on insurance company will be made by Nathan. Supreme Court decision may be expected in Colony November.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 114.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 20, 1907.)

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned papers.

Foreign Office,
February 19, 1907.

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* No. 108.

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Sir F. H. Villiers, February 9, 1907 ... ... To February 19, 1907	Jamaica Disaster.

Enclosure 1 in No. 114.

SIR, British Legation, Lisbon, February 9, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to forward translation of a note from the President of the Lisbon Municipal Chamber, announcing that on the 24th ultimo the Chamber passed unanimously a vote of condolence on the recent catastrophe in Jamaica.

I have thanked the President, and have informed him that I would transmit his communication to His Majesty's Government, who would highly appreciate this kind expression of sympathy.

I have, &c.,
F. H. VILLIERS.

Sir Edward Grey, Bart.,
&c., &c., &c.

(Translation.)

SIR, Lisbon Municipal Chamber, February 8, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that the Lisbon Municipal Chamber, at the session of the 24th of January last, unanimously decided, on the motion of the Councillor Senhor José Carlos de Carvalho Pessoa, to record a vote of sympathy on the recent castastrophe in Jamaica.

I have, &c.,
THEODORO F. PINTO BASTO,
President.

Sir F. Villiers,
His Britannic Majesty's Minister,
Lisbon.

Enclosure 2 in No. 114.

SIR, Foreign Office, February 19, 1907.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 8, Treaty, of the 9th instant, forwarding a translation of a note from the President of the Lisbon Municipal Chamber, which states that on the 24th ultimo the Chamber passed unanimously a vote of condolence on the recent catastrophe in Jamaica.

I request that you will express to the Chamber the thanks of His Majesty's Government for this resolution of sympathy, which they greatly appreciate.

I am, &c.,
E. GREY.

The Honourable
Sir F. Villiers, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
&c., &c., &c.

No. 115.

COLONIAL OFFICE to FOREIGN OFFICE.

SIR, Downing Street, February 19, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th February* on the subject of the steps taken by the Governor of Cuba, at the request of His Majesty's Consul at Havana, for the relief of the sufferers by the Jamaica earthquake, and to inform you that Lord Elgin concurs in the action which Sir E. Grey proposes to take in the matter.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 116.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 21, 1907.)

SIR, Admiralty, February 19, 1907.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Earl of Elgin, copy of extracts from a letter dated 22nd January which has been received from the Commanding Officer H.M.S. "Brilliant," relative to her voyage from Bermuda to Jamaica to relieve distress caused by the earthquake.

I am, &c.,
EVAN MACGREGOR.

Enclosure in No. 116.

SIR, "Brilliant," at Kingston, Jamaica, January 22, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that in compliance with Admiralty telegram I left St John's, Newfoundland, on the 11th January and proceeded direct to Bermuda, where I arrived on the 15th instant just after sundown.

* * * * * * * * *

On the morning of the 16th January I received Admiralty telegram No. 6, ordering me to proceed with all convenient speed to Jamaica to relieve distress caused by the earthquake, and to purchase locally any stores which Bermuda Dockyard could not provide and which I considered might be useful. I informed the Senior Officer, and with his permission proceeded to coal with the aid of a working-party from the "Dominion."

Having made the necessary arrangements with the Commander-in-Charge of the dockyard, and following on arrangements made by the Senior Naval Officer with his Excellency the Governor and the Army authorities, I took in the amount of stores and provisions shown in the attached lists.†

I sent my medical officer to confer with the fleet surgeon of Bermuda Hospital as to the necessary medical stores and medical comforts available, and on his submission I drew from the dockyard the amount shown in the attached list, and purchased the amount shown on Enclosure No. 4 from the shore.

In compliance with a signal received from the Senior Naval Officer, I embarked 1 officer and 12 men of the Army Ordnance Corps, and 1 officer and 4 men of the Army Medical for passage from Bermuda to Kingston, and sailed at 1.30 p.m. on the 17th January.

I have, &c.,
ROB. H. ANSTRUTHER, Captain,
Senior Naval Officer,
Kingston, Jamaica.

The Secretary
of the Admiralty.

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* No. 104. † Not printed.

No. 117.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 21, 1907.)

SIR, Admiralty, February 19, 1907.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Earl of Elgin, copy of extracts from a letter, dated 22nd January, 1907, which has been received from the Commanding Officer, H.M.S. "Indefatigable," relative to the visit of that ship to Jamaica.

I am, &c.,
C. I. THOMAS.

Enclosure in No. 117.

GENERAL LETTER.

SIR, H.M.S. "Indefatigable," at Jamaica, January 22, 1907.

* * * * * * *

22. On the evening of the 15th a rumour reached me that a severe earthquake had taken place at Jamaica. I immediately communicated with Sir Henry Jackson requesting to be kept informed, and also telling him that if the rumour was confirmed, I must leave Trinidad and proceed to Jamaica.

His Excellency replied that he was telegraphing to the Governor of Jamaica offering assistance in money or stores from the Colony of Trinidad, and asking what Jamaica required.

23. On the morning of the 16th the news of the earthquake was confirmed, and some few details were received during the day giving an idea as to the extent of the disaster.

24. I took in an additional 43 tons of coal and raised steam, and I was informed that the Government of Trinidad had just voted £1,500 to assist the sufferers at Jamaica. I therefore offered to convey anything that Trinidad wished to send as temporary relief. This offer was accepted, and during the afternoon I received your telegram ordering me to Jamaica, and authorising me to purchase any stores which would be of use. The stores already being prepared for embarkation by Trinidad were so various and so bulky that it was unnecessary for me to purchase in addition.

25. Three large lighter loads of stores came alongside at 7.30 p.m., and the coal, which had been delayed, arrived at 8.30 p.m.

I sailed at 20 minutes past midnight, having taken in the whole of the £1,500 worth of stores. Every available space was filled between decks, and I also had a large upper deck cargo. List of stores attached.*

26. A strong trade was experienced during the passage, and the ship rolled heavily. Considerable quantities of water were shipped, and I did not consider it advisable to steam more than 84 revolutions in order that my upper deck cargo might not be damaged.

27. Whilst passing the channel between Hayti and Jamaica I experienced a phenomenal contrary current, viz., east 2 knots from 6.15 p.m. on the 19th instant until 9.15 a.m. on the 20th instant.

28. I arrived at Port Royal at 2 p.m. with my cargo undamaged, and, having obtained pratique, I proceeded to Kingston, and anchored off the German Lloyd Wharf at 3 p.m.

29. I observed, on passing, that the destruction caused by the earthquake was very considerable at Port Royal, and that the entire peninsula had subsided about a foot. I am preparing a report of the damage done at Kingston and at Port Royal,

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* Not printed.

and will forward it as soon as possible, but the resounding cannot be completed in time for the mail.

30. On arrival at Kingston, I waited on His Excellency the Governor and offered all assistance in my power. I immediately proceeded to disembark my cargo, and subsequently provided working parties for the General Hospital, for clearing the streets, and exhuming the dead, and also for the repair of Plum Point Lighthouse.

31. I visited all parts of the city in company with His Excellency the Governor, and on the 21st instant, was able to send my telegram reporting provisions in plenty, and complete order reigning in the district.

32. Plum Point Lighthouse is considerably shaken, and I ordered Engineer Commander Bearblock to undertake the necessary temporary repairs, which are now in progress.

33. Lieutenant Rayne is at work re-sounding the harbour and approaches He has discovered no change up to the present.

34. Major Chown, R.M.L.I., is preparing a report of the effects of the earthquake in Kingston and Port Royal.

* * * * * * *

P. NELSON-WARD

The Secretary,
The Admiralty,
Whitehall.

No. 117A.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 7.55 a.m., February 20, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 123.]

In answer to your telegram, No. 4, 16th February.* Desire free gift £150,000 Imperial funds for rehousing indigent, loan from Imperial funds million pounds sterling to landed proprietors restoration on account of damage sustained by calamity at a minimum charge of 6 per cent. first mortgage on property (of) borrower, to be secured (by) apportionment 4 per cent. interest (and) management, 2 per cent. repayment; borrower insuring. Administration at your option. Cannot give way to further liability of Colonial Government beyond surplus funds £47,900 grant; only two Privy Councillors approve Colonial Government guaranty. Refer to your predecessor's despatch of 1883† bearing on the subject.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 118.

COLONIAL OFFICE to SIR W. J. SOULSBY.

[*Answered by No.* 126.]

SIR, Downing Street, February 21, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor's letter of the 11th February‡ enquiring what amount, if any is likely to be forthcoming from Colonial or Imperial funds towards making good the losses by the earthquake in Jamaica.

2. Lord Elgin is awaiting a despatch on this subject from the Governor of Jamaica, which is understood to be now on its way, and is also expecting telegraphic information in reply to further enquiries addressed to Sir J. A. Swettenham on receipt of your letter under reply. Pending the receipt of these communications, Lord Elgin is not in a position to reply conclusively to the enquiries made

* No. 107. † No. 6 in [C. 3354], February, 1884. ‡ No. 98.

in the Lord Mayor's letter, but I am to state that it appears clear to his Lordship that there has been an almost complete destruction of trading stocks and of other equipment necessary for enabling the commercial and clerical classes to earn their living, the loss of which it is not probable can be made good from public funds, whilst the amount available from charitable funds already subscribed, after dealing with calls for personal relief and the rehousing of the poorer classes, will be quite insufficient for this purpose. Lord Elgin, therefore, fears that he may have reason, when he receives from the Governor the particulars which he is awaiting, to ask the Lord Mayor to issue a further appeal to the liberality of the public, with a statement of the situation to be dealt with.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 119.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 22, 1907.)

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
February 21, 1907.

REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS LETTER.

Colonial Office, February 19.*

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Telegram to Mr. Griffith (Havana), February 20	Jamaica Earthquake.

Enclosure in No. 119.

Sir EDWARD GREY to Vice-Consul GRIFFITH (Havana).

Foreign Office, February 20, 1907.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 23rd ultimo, please convey to the Provisional Governor and to the Cuban Government the cordial thanks of His Majesty's Government for the prompt and valuable assistance afforded to the Colony of Jamaica on the occasion of the recent earthquake.

Your own action is fully approved.

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* No. 115.

No. 119A.

THE GOVERNOR OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 22, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 131.]

MY LORD, Government House, Antigua, January 28, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to invite your Lordship's approval of my action in authorising the Administrator of St. Kitts-Nevis to send to Jamaica, in accordance with the unanimous advice of his Executive Council, the sum of £200 from public funds, or provisions of corresponding value, for the relief of the sufferers from the awful calamity that has laid in ruins the town of Kingston, Jamaica.

2. I enclose, for your Lordship's information, copies of the telegrams noted in the margin, and of my letter to the Governor of Jamaica of the 26th instant, from which it will be seen that I have remitted to Sir Alexander Swettenham from the people of Antigua the sum of £140 raised by private subscriptions, and that a further remittance will be sent later on. The state of the public finances of the Presidency did not admit of any contribution being given from public funds.

Governor, Leeward Islands, January 17, 1907.
Governor, Jamaica, January 20, 1907.
Governor, Leeward Islands, January 26, 1907.

I have, &c.,
BICKHAM SWEET-ESCOTT,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 119A.

From ESCOTT to GOVERNOR, Jamaica.

TELEGRAM.

On behalf of people of Leeward Islands I desire to convey to your Government deepest sympathy with you in terrible calamity; subscriptions have been invited for relief of sufferers, and amount collected will be remitted to you as soon as possible.

January 17, 1907.

Enclosure 2 in No. 119A.

GOVERNOR, Jamaica, to GOVERNOR, Antigua.

TELEGRAM.

Referring to your telegram of 17 January, grateful to you and people for sympathy and offer of help.

January 20, 1907.

Enclosure 3 in No. 119A.

SIR, Government House, Antigua, January 26, 1907.

WITH reference to the telegrams of the dates noted in margin, I have much pleasure in forwarding to Your Excellency, for the relief of the sufferers from the terrible calamity that has befallen the Colony of Jamaica, a Bill of Exchange for £140.

Governor, Leeward Islands, January 17, 1907.
Governor, Jamaica, January 20, 1907.

2. The money has been subscribed by all classes of the community in Antigua, and is sent from the people of this Island to the people of Jamaica, to be used in such manner as Your Excellency and your advisers may think best.

3. I understand that I shall be able to send Your Excellency a further remittance later on, after all subscription lists have been returned to the Committee appointed to receive them.

I have, &c.,
BICKHAM SWEET-ESCOTT,
Governor.

His Excellency the Governor,
Jamaica.

No. 120.

THE GOVERNOR OF BARBADOS to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 22, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 128.]

MY LORD, Government House, Barbados, January 30, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that, on receiving the news of the disaster that befell the city of Kingston on the 14th instant, I telegraphed to the Governor of Jamaica expressing the sympathy of the people of this Colony and their desire to assist, and asking for information as to the extent of the damage.

2. Having received the Governor's reply, the Executive Committee decided to send down a resolution to the House of Assembly asking for a vote of £2,000 in aid of the sufferers from the disaster, and at a special meeting of the Legislature on the 22nd instant resolutions were unanimously passed granting that amount and expressing the sympathy of the Legislature with the Government and people of Jamaica. I enclose copies of these resolutions.

3. I requested the Crown Agents for the Colonies by telegram to transfer the sum of £2,000 to the credit of the Jamaica Account, and informed the Governor of Jamaica that this had been done.

4. On the same date a public meeting was held, at which I presided, when further resolutions of sympathy were adopted and subscription lists were opened.

I have, &c.,
G. T. CARTER,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 120.

(No. 2.)

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Resolved that the sum of £2,000 be granted from the Public Treasury to afford relief to the sufferers by the recent earthquake in Jamaica and that the Legislative Council be invited to concur herein, and, if concurred in;

Resolved that His Excellency the Governor be requested to assent to the same and to take the necessary steps to give effect to this resolution.

F. J. CLARKE,
Speaker.

January 22, 1907.

Concurred in by the Legislative Council this 22nd of January, 1907.

W. P. LEACOCK,
President.

I assent.
G. T. CARTER,
Governor.

January 22, 1907.

Enclosure 2 in No. 120.

(No. 3.)

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Resolved that the Legislature of Barbados desires to express its deep and heartfelt sympathy with the Government and people of Jamaica in the terrible disaster by earthquake and fire which has occurred at Kingston.

G. T. CARTER,
Governor.
W. P. LEACOCK,
President of the Legislative Council.
F. J. CLARKE,
Speaker of the House of Assembly.

January 22, 1907.

No. 121.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 22, 1907.)

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 5, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to confirm my telegram of the 28th of January* in the following terms:—

"Respectfully suggest your thanking American Government for supply of tents just received."

Through the spontaneous action of the British Consul at Havana, a supply of tents and accessories belonging to the United States Government was brought from Cuba by Captain Battle, 11th United States Infantry, and placed at the disposal of the Relief Committee for the assistance of the sufferers by the earthquake.

The Relief Committee have considered it sound policy to sell or let many of these tents, and I have requested the British Consul to obtain permission for this Government to pay the invoiced price of the goods supplied. Such payment will, of course, be a charge on the Relief Fund.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

No. 122.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 25, 1907.)

MY LORD, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C., February 22, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a copy of a resolution adopted at a meeting held at the Commercial Sale Rooms yesterday afternoon, under the Presidency of the Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P., to hear a lecture delivered by Professor Milne on "Construction of Buildings in Earthquake Countries."

In this resolution the meeting express the wish that the attention of the Government should be drawn to the desirability of rebuilding Kingston on such scientific lines as would render it, as far as possible, immune from the effects of earthquakes, hurricanes, and fire, and also express cordial support of the appeal of the Jamaica Relief Committee for a substantial grant and an adequate loan on easy terms in order that operations may be conducted on such lines without delay.

Trusting that your Lordship will be pleased to bring this resolution before the Cabinet,

I have, &c.,
ALGERNON E. ASPINALL,
Secretary.

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* No. 64.

Enclosure in No. 122.

COPY OF RESOLUTION.

That this general meeting assembled, under the Chairmanship of the Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P., to hear Professor Milne's lecture on the construction of buildings in earthquake countries, wishes to impress upon the Government the desirability of rebuilding the city of Kingston, Jamaica, on such scientific lines as will render it, as far as possible, immune from earthquakes, hurricanes, and fire; and cordially supports, therefore, the appeal of the Jamaica Relief Committee in Kingston, for a substantial grant and an adequate loan on easy terms in order that operations may be conducted on such lines without delay.

No. 123.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 3.5 p.m., February 22, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 129.]

(Extract.)

February 22. No. 2. In answer to your telegram of 19th February,* you must clearly understand that if Imperial Loan is to be recommended it will only be obtainable as a loan to the Colonial Government. Colonial Government must pass Loan Law similar to Law 36 of 1900 accept full responsibility and arrange for administration. Do you desire me to approach Treasury with a view to procuring such a loan or not?

With reference to desired grant Crown Agents now have £32,650 and Lord Mayor £12,000. Are you satisfied that in addition to these amounts and funds in Colony Imperial grant of £150,000 can be justified?—ELGIN.

No. 124.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR OF BERMUDA.

SIR, Downing Street, February 23, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 2nd instant,† and enclosure relating to the contribution made by the Legislature of Bermuda, and the inhabitants of the Colony for the relief of the sufferers through the recent disaster in Jamaica, and I have to express my satisfaction at the generous desire evinced by the Legislature and the general community to contribute with a view to alleviating the distress caused by the earthquake.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 125.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 26, 1907.)

SIR, Admiralty, February 23, 1907.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Earl of Elgin, copy of a report, dated 29th January, 1907, which has been received through the Senior Naval Officer, West

* No. 117A. † No. 110.

Indies, from Major E. E. Chown, R.M.L.I., relative to the effects of the earthquake at Kingston, Jamaica.

I am, &c.,
EVAN MACGREGOR.

Enclosure in No. 125.

REPORT ON EARTHQUAKE AT KINGSTON, JAMAICA, WHICH TOOK PLACE ON THE 14TH JANUARY, 1907.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

On Monday afternoon, the 14th January, 1907, at about 3.30 p.m., the city of Kingston and its suburbs was almost entirely destroyed by heavy earthquake shocks. There was little or no wind at the time; what little there was was from the east, and the atmospherical conditions were quite normal. The shocks apparently approached from the south at first and then from the west. They are variously estimated to have lasted from ten to thirty seconds, the latter estimate being the general opinion. On the other hand, several Englishmen who were in the open at the time and in no immediate danger from falling houses, &c., consider 20 seconds the outside limit of time taken by the shocks. During this period an enormous amount of damage was done to life and property. Large numbers of buildings at once collapsed. As is, unfortunately, usual in such cases, fires broke out in several places in the commercial portion of the town, principally in Harbour and King Streets, and, before they could be got under control, completely consumed the district marked red on the accompanying map. This district is roughly triangular in shape, the apex being the parish church, and the base extending from the premises of Watson, Davis and Company on the west, to the Ice House on the east.

Unfortunately, the Central Fire Station was destroyed by earthquake, so the fire engine was not available. The means at hand were thus very inadequate for fighting the flames, although they were supplemented greatly by fire-extinguishing appliances from the various ships alongside the wharves, and those belonging to the wharves themselves. The fire, however, spread with terrible rapidity and all efforts were directed towards isolating the burning area. During this time the light wind blowing was about north-east, but it later in the afternoon went round to the north and north-west, thus lending tremendous assistance to the people in their efforts to extinguish the fire. Many injured persons, buried in the falling *débris*, were burnt to death. Meanwhile, vast numbers of the inhabitants were flying northwards to the racecourse and open spaces outside the town, where they spent the night—small earthquake shocks being felt at frequent intervals during that time.

DAMAGE DONE.

It may be said that the whole of Kingston and its suburbs are either destroyed or in ruins. A very few of the substantially built houses are still standing but so shaken and injured by the shocks that it will be impossible to repair them. There are, however, the following exceptions:—The houses built entirely of wood, outside the fire area, are with few exceptions comparatively unhurt, and the wharves and stores on them, also outside the area destroyed by fire, have sustained little damage. The destruction in Harbour Street is terrible and great loss of life occurred there. All the banks, churches, schools, the Court House, the Post Office, the Theatre Royal, and the hotels in Kingston are destroyed. Headquarters House in Duke Street still stands, but a portion of it is declared to be be unsafe. At the Penitentiary the damage done was not so heavy. One block, containing cells is badly smashed up and quite unsafe. Several of the storehouses are in a ricketty condition, but the remaining buildings there are unhurt. The loss of life at the Penitentiary was very small, only two adults and one child being killed. At the lunatic asylum much damage has been done to the buildings and both infirmaries are wrecked. The loss of life there was nine men. At Up Park Camp the hospital was wrecked, caught fire, and was entirely consumed, several patients being burnt

alive. The Brigade Office, Officers' Mess and Quarters, and the Barrack Blocks of the West India Regiment are in ruins. The regiment is at present under canvas at Swallowfield. The loss of life in camp was 24, of whom two were officers (Major Hardyman and Lieutenant Lamont). The railway to Port Antonio and Montego Bay is intact. At the Kingston terminus a tower came down and a passenger shed was wrecked. Some damage was also done to the rolling stock there. Only two people were killed on the premises and there was, fortunately, no fire. The railway lines, bridges, &c., all over their system are unhurt, and the traffic was not suspended. The Jamaica Electric Company sustained damage as follows:—Five cars were burnt; the King Street office was entirely destroyed by earthquake and fire; the transmission line was slightly damaged, but is now repaired; the power house and machinery are all unhurt; their tram system was suspended for four days, but is now in working order and running regularly on all lines, except within the burnt area. The total damage of this Company is estimated at £4,000. The water supply system of Kingston was considerably damaged, but continues to keep up the supply. The public hospital, fortunately, did not sustain much damage. One ward only is unsafe and not habitable. The total estimated losses to the commercial community alone are two millions sterling.

Loss of Life.

It is extremely difficult to estimate the total loss of life in the earthquake and fire. The Government have called on the inhabitants to register the names of their killed and missing, but up to this date there has been little response. On the 25th January, some eleven days after the catastrophe, the numbers recorded at the Registrar's Office were only 121, although at least four times that number are known to have been buried or cremated. The careful opinion of prominent officials in Kingston is that the loss of life will be about 1,000. Of the injured the daily number of in-patients at the hospital is about 300, mostly cases of concussions and legs amputated.

Steps taken after Disaster.

All available conveyances and horses were at once requisitioned for conveying the dead and injured from the ruins. The Jamaica Militia and the St. Andrew Rifle Corps were called out and all of the police who could possibly be spared from the out-stations, were brought into Kingston. Special constables were also enrolled. The white companies of Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers and also the West India Regiment were utilised in keeping order, isolating the burning and dangerous portions of the town, restraining looting and pulling down dangerous structures. The homeless people were camped in the public gardens, racecourse, and other vacant places, and a Relief Committee was formed with the Archbishop of Jamaica as its President. The Government bought up the whole of the food supplies in the city. A most important thing was to try and get the inhabitants of the ruined areas out of the city, and in furthering this plan the Railway and Tram Companies rendered very valuable aid. They gave free conveyance to all people certified to have had their homes destroyed, to all parts of the island, and by their action greatly facilitated the Government in their aim, viz., to keep the dangerous parts of the city clear of population.

The large numbers of women, children, and old or disabled men encamped in the Public Gardens and racecourse, &c., were supplied with food rations daily, under the supervision of the Relief Committee. Over 3,000 people daily have been receiving this relief. At no time does there appear to have been a scarcity of food or water. A tremendous strain at once came on the staff of the hospital, the place being besieged with the injured and their relatives. Large numbers of medical men from the out-districts at once proceeded to Kingston and assisted in attending to the wounded. With the aid of their ready assistance, and that of many volunteer nurses from the civil population, the hospital staff were enabled to cope with the situation, and at the present time work is proceeding there with great smoothness and regularity. The American ships "Indiana," "Missouri," and "Whipple," also, on arrival, landed their surgeons, who at once established a hospital on shore and rendered great assistance. The Royal Mail Steamship Company have recently announced that they will give free passages to any homeless men who wish to

join their relatives at Colon. The telegraph wires of the Cable Companies were broken, with the exception of the West India and Panama Company, who at last managed, but only on the following morning, to get news through to the outer world of the disaster that had occurred. His Excellency the Governor has just notified the inhabitants of Kingston that they will be relieved from paying any rates or taxes for a period of 15 months, viz., from the 1st January, 1907, to the 31st March, 1908.

Behaviour of Population.

Directly after the earthquake, and while the fire was in progress, the greater portion of the black and coloured population were stupefied with terror and amazement, and lent little or no aid to the white members of the community and the troops and firemen in their rescue work. Vast numbers of them fled from the city.

Some became frenzied and ran here and there declaring the end of the world had arrived, impeding the work and terrifying the workers. Others formed groups and commenced praying. At the Penitentiary the prisoners, who remained seated in their ranks on the parade ground all night, spent the time in singing hymns without ceasing. As soon as the first panic had subsided, the black population became quite apathetic, and it was with great difficulty that the Government were able to get able-bodied men to take part in the work of demolition and clearing the streets. This, in spite of the fact that the wages offered were 25 per cent. more than the usual rate. At the present time a considerable portion of able-bodied black men may be seen lounging about the streets or basking in the sun on the racecourse, although labour is still in demand. The white portion of the community rendered most valuable assistance to the authorities, both in maintaining order and organising and controlling the rescue work, and afterwards in the work of demolition and clearing the streets; looting on a small scale was attempted, but soon stamped out. Soon after the disaster some small Chinese shops raised the prices of their provisions to an exorbitant amount. This seems to have annoyed the crowd and the shops were promptly looted. There have been one or two cases of money having been stolen, but not on a large scale. A large number of arrests were made, but the offences were mainly of a petty larceny nature. The loss from looting may be said to be insignificant. At no time does the populace seem to have been beyond the restraint of the forces available.

General Remarks.

Considering the magnitude and widespread nature of the disaster, the loss of life might easily have been on a much larger scale. The earthquake came at a time of day when the labouring part of the population were at work away from their houses, and the streets in the busy commercial quarter presented the comparatively deserted appearance so usual in the afternoons in tropical places. As the streets in this quarter were very narrow and the buildings on each side of them lofty and of solid construction the loss of life must have been largely increased had the earthquake happened during the busy portion of the day. The West Indian Agricultural Conference was holding its first sitting at the time, and a large number of the most influential men of the West Indies were taking part in it. It was being held in a massive brick building called the Old Mico, and although the structure rocked and swayed and threatened every moment to collapse, it happily remained intact, and the members of the Conference were uninjured. At the Penitentiary, the prisoners (some 600 in number) were all out in the open at work. All the damaged buildings, without exception, show the greatest damage on the eastern sides or ends. The superiority of wooden buildings over the more solid buildings of masonry and bricks and mortar, is very marked. A type of building which shows little or no harm sustained is that with light steel uprights or columns, braced with light steel rods, and with steel roof trusses and corrugated iron roofs; the walls being either entirely open or boarded with weather boarding. Several buildings of this type, used as stores or sheds for machinery, are still intact and unhurt. A remarkable fact is that the railway and tram lines were nor warped or twisted. In a few cases they were snapped, but nowhere is there any indication of disturbance on the permanent way. On the macadamised roads also there are no fissures and they present a normal appearance. The great damage caused to the older masonry and brick buildings is due very largely to the inferior nature of the lime, mortar, and bricks used in them, and also to the faulty and careless workmanship in their construction.

Evidence of this is very apparent. There are several statues in Kingston, but they are for the most part unhurt. That of Queen Victoria in front of the public gardens is untouched, but the figure has been slewed round on its pedestal towards the south-east. It originally faced south. At the present time the streets have nearly all been cleared of the *débris*, and the people are commencing to repair and return to their wooden houses, in those cases where but slight damage has been sustained. The leading business firms, banks and public offices have resumed business in temporary quarters. The country people are coming in as usual daily to sell their produce, and, as the earthquake shocks are getting more and more infrequent, the confidence of the people is being restored. The St. Andrew Rifle Corps was dismissed from duty on the 26th January. It has rendered most valuable assistance to the authorities, both at the time of, and after, the disaster. There is an abundance of stores, which still come in from all quarters. Owing to the dry weather now prevailing here, the homeless population, roughly encamped on the open space, are suffering little or no hardship. It is to be hoped they may be permanently sheltered before the wet season commences. There will be a tremendous demand for lumber and all kinds of building materials when the re-construction of the city is commenced. There seems every reason to suppose that, as the products of the island remain unharmed, and with the assistance of the various relief funds at present being raised in many parts of the world, the city of Kingston will, at no far distant date, be re-constructed and resume its former progress and prosperity.

E. E. CHOWN,
Major, R.M.L.I.

Kingston,
January 29, 1907.

Approved:
P. NELSON-WARD,
Captain.

No. 126.

MANSION HOUSE COMMITTEE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 26, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 139.]

SIR, The Mansion House, London, E.C., February 25, 1907.

I AM directed by the Lord Mayor and the Committee of the Jamaica Earthquake Relief Fund to thank you for your letter of the 21st instant.* They understand that the Governor of Jamaica has suggested to the Secretary of State the desirability of making a grant of £150,000 for relief purposes in Kingston to supplement the wholly inadequate funds subscribed by the public and that the subject is now under the consideration of his Lordship and of the Treasury.

I am to suggest that, if the Earl of Elgin would desire to hear the views of the Mansion House Committee in support of the Governor's proposition, they would have the honour of sending a deputation to wait upon his Lordship on any day which he might be pleased to appoint.

I am, &c.,
WILLIAM J. SOULSBY.

No. 127.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 27, 1907.)

[*Copy was sent to Governor, March* 4, 1907.]

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned papers.

Foreign Office,
February 26, 1907.

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* No. 118.

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Mr. Bax-Ironside, January 24, 1907	Jamaica Earthquake.

Enclosure in No. 127.

SIR, Caracas, January 24, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that I have received a note from the Venezuelan Minister for Foreign Affairs expressing the sympathy of the Venezuelan Government with that of His Majesty, and with the Government of Jamaica, at the loss sustained in consequence of the earthquake in the island.

I have replied in suitable terms to this communication.

I have, &c.,
OUTRAM BAX-IRONSIDE.

Sir Edward Grey, Bart.,
&c., &c., &c.

No. 128.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 28, 1907.)

SIR, Admiralty, February 26, 1907.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, copy of a letter, dated 30th January, from the Commanding Officer of H.M.S. "Indefatigable," relative to the earthquake at Jamaica, also extracts from a letter, dated 5th February, on the same subject.

I am, &c.,
EVAN MACGREGOR.

Enclosure 1 in No. 128.

REPORT of damage caused by earthquake on January 14, 1907, at Port Royal, Jamaica, by Captain J. A. F. CUFFE, R.M.L.I.

The ground generally being reclaimed, and having, in consequence, a bad foundation, stood the earthquake shock very badly. There are several large fissures in places, three feet wide. Owing to the subsidence of ground, a number of houses are partially buried. The only type of house which seems to have successfully withstood the shock is built of wood, with a steel frame on a concrete base, and is certainly the most suitable for a country liable to earthquakes.

The town of Port Royal, not shown in detail on attached plan, suffered very severely, most of the houses being damaged.

The water supply, which was laid down by the Admiralty some years ago, has been completely cut off. The water was led through 7 inch pipes from Harbour Head, a distance of 14 miles. The garrison is at present on an allowance of one gallon per diem for all purposes. This water has to be towed from Kingston in the "Bann," at present for sale, but which fortunately had not been removed from the port.

Attached is a detailed report* on all Government buildings, and also a plan* to illustrate report, and show altered coast line, &c.

The assistance of Captain Carden, R.E., has been largely used in the compilation of this report.

P. NELSON-WARD,
Captain.

* Not printed.

Enclosure 2 in No. 128.

GENERAL LETTER.

(Extract.)

H.M.S. "Indefatigable," at Sea,
Latitude 19° 23′ north, Longitude 74° 32′ west,
February 5, 1907.

SIR,

IN continuation of my General Letter, No. 2, of the 22nd January, 1907, I have the honour to report that I have been unable to carry out any drills or exercises since that date.

2. I left Kingston at 6 a.m. on the 24th January, and secured alongside the coal wharf at Port Royal at 7 a.m. The coal contractor had promised to provide at least 120 coolies, but reported (as I was leaving Kingston), that he was unable to provide any. I therefore coaled with my ship's company, assisted by a few coolies, whom I engaged at Port Royal.

3. I commenced coaling at 8.40 a.m., stopped at 5.45 p.m., and continued at 6 a.m., the following morning, and finished at 11.40 a.m. I received 406 tons, an average of 35½ tons per hour.

As the ground has sunk, and the buildings are damaged, I cleared one small shed which was wrecked, and took the remainder from the stacks nearest the water's edge, in order to prevent further damage to the fuel. I left the coaling wharf at 2 p.m. on the 25th, and secured to No. 5 buoy.

* * * * * * *

5. The "Brilliant" sailed from Kingston at 11.30 a.m. on the 27th January, and I communicated as she passed Port Royal.

* * * * * * * *

7. On the 29th I was informed that the "Brilliant" had left 35,000 lbs. of beef and biscuit at Kingston. As these stores were not required by the Colonial authorities, and as I had received no instructions from Captain Anstruther on the subject, I have shipped them back to Bermuda in steamship "Beta." They were stacked in the open, and no shed accommodation is available, therefore they could not be left to await passage by man-of-war.

8. In compliance with the instructions contained in Admiralty Letter, C.N. 2/11073/11636, of 13th November, 1906, and Commander-in-Chief's memoranda, No. 1440/89, of 29th November, 1906, and 4th December, 1906, I instructed Engineer Commander Bearblock to survey the launches "Sir Frederick Chapman" and "Maroon." These launches were in use on my arrival at Port Royal. I was informed that they were laid up shortly after my departure from Port Royal in June last, but when the water supply was cut off by the recent earthquake on the 14th January, it became necessary to transport water by boat from Harbour Head. The "Bann" (which is up for sale) was utilised for this purpose, but as the "Bann's" boilers were destroyed before being offered for sale, it was necessary to again requisition the services of the "Chapman" or "Maroon" in order to keep up the daily water supply. Unfortunately, the "Rodney" now broke down, and both the Admiralty launches were called into use. The inhabitants of Port Royal are on an allowance of a gallon of water per day. The water service along the Palisades will take three months to repair.

9. The destruction at Port Royal is so serious that the whole question of harbour arrangements must be reconsidered. I therefore told Captain Carden, Royal Engineers, who is in charge of the dockyard, that no repairs of Admiralty property should be undertaken for the present, except those of a purely temporary nature, to ensure the safety of existing buildings, &c. The factory chimney is very badly cracked at about one-third from the top. The upper part will have to be pulled down, and one small shed will probably suffer to some extent when this is done.

* * * * * * *

12. As the Harbour Master's staff is disorganised, I lent a party on the 31st January, and relaid Rackum Cay Buoy, which had disappeared.

13. With the assistance of Engineer-Commander Bearblock, the Military authorities were able to commence using the "Rodney" again on the 4th instant.

14. The repairs to the Plumb Point Lighthouse are almost completed, as far as the strengthening ironwork is concerned. A thick concrete jacket is to be added, but this work can be undertaken by the Public Works Department.

15. On my arrival at Kingston I landed my marine camp equipment (consisting of 27 tents) for use at the General Hospital. I also landed a sergeant and six marines in charge and for guard duties. This guard returned to the ship on the 3rd instant, as they are no longer required. I have written asking that I may be informed on my return to Jamaica as to how long the tents will be required at the Hospital.

16. On the 20th January two United States bluejackets who had been left behind when Admiral Davis sailed with his squadron, came on board asking for a blanket each. I supplied them from my camp equipment without payment.

* * * * * * *

19. The Colonel Commanding the West India Regimental Depôt applied to purchase serge, flannel, &c., for the widows and orphans of men killed by the earthquake. They were being sent to England and required warm clothing. I supplied these stores on payment.

* * * * * * *

21. On receiving your telegram, No. 8, I waited on His Excellency the Governor, who considered that the presence of a man-of-war was no longer necessary.

22. As the machinery of legislative and municipal government is not yet running with the wonted smoothness, I deemed it expedient to address a letter to His Excellency the Governor before sailing. I reported progress on the various works in hand in order that His Excellency's acknowledgment of my letter may be an official recognition of my subsequent claims for extra pay for the men employed in the Colony's service. Copy of my letter attached.

23. The French flagship "Kléber" arrived at Kingston on 22nd January, and sailed at 4.25 p.m. on the 28th for Martinique. The French Cruiser "D'Estrées" arrived on the 28th January, and sailed for Martinique on the 31st.

24. In accordance with your orders I left Port Royal at 5.45 p.m. on the 4th instant, and proceeded at ordinary speed for Nassau.

25. I observed that the temporary light exhibited from Plumb Point Lighthouse was not visible much over two miles.

I have, &c.,
P. NELSON-WARD.

The Secretary of the Admiralty,
Whitehall, S.W.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, H.M.S. "Indefatigable," at Port Royal, February 3, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that in compliance with orders received from the Admiralty, and with Your Excellency's concurrence, I am sailing for Nassau at 6 p.m. to-morrow.

I have the honour to report progress of work undertaken in accordance with Your Excellency's wishes, as follows:—

(*a*) Clearing the streets of débris, &c., and removing the dead.—Forty-five men were employed on this work under Lieutenant E. J. Huskisson, R.M.L.I., on the 22nd and 23rd January.

(*b*) Repairing Plumb Point Lighthouse.—This work is not yet quite completed. I intended to have tested the permanent light when replaced, and I will do so if it is in position when I return to Jamaica, probably next week.

(*c*) Resounding Kingston and Port Royal Harbours, and the approach from the eastward.—This work has been completed, and the plans have been forwarded to the Admiralty for the information of the Hydrographer. I have discovered no alterations of any consequence, and it does not appear necessary to have a detailed survey at present.

(*d*) Salving the projectors and other defence stores from the searchlight emplacements, which were submerged at Port Royal by the earthquake. This work has been completed.

(*e*) Relaying Rackum Cay Buoy on 31st January.

(*f*) A guard and working party for the General Hospital with 27 tents.

These men were withdrawn on the 3rd February.

I shall have much pleasure in conveying mails to Nassau, if any convenience to the Colony.

I have, &c.,
P. NELSON-WARD,
Captain.

His Excellency Sir J. A. Swettenham, K.C.M.G.,
Governor, Jamaica.

No. 129.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 12 midnight, February 26, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

February 26. No. 1. In answer to your telegram, No. 2, 20th [? 22nd] February,* Privy Council unanimously of opinion that Imperial grant in aid can be justified. Only two Privy Councillors in favour of Colony raising loan from British Government, one not exceeding £250,000. Remaining Privy Councillors and Governor of Jamaica have, in present financial condition of Colony, insuperable objection to Colonial borrowings for special purposes restoration.—SWETTENHAM.

No. 130.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR OF BARBADOS.

SIR, Downing Street, February 26, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 30th January,† reporting the resolutions of sympathy with the people of Jamaica passed by the Legislature of Barbados, and the vote of £2,000 granted by the House of Assembly in aid of the sufferers by the earthquake.

I appreciate the generosity which the Legislature of Barbados have displayed towards the people of a sister Colony in the disaster which has befallen them.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN

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* No. 123. † No. 120.

No. 131.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS.

SIR, Downing Street, February 26, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 28th ultimo* and to convey to you my approval of your action in authorizing the Administration of St. Kitts-Nevis to send to Jamaica the sum of £200 from public funds for the relief of the sufferers through the recent disaster in Kingston.

2. I have also noted with satisfaction that the sum of £140 has been raised by private subscriptions in Antigua for the same purpose, and I have no doubt that the liberality of the subscribers will be much appreciated in Jamaica.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 132.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 28, 1907.)

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 13, 1907.

IN connection with my despatch of February 11th,† transmitting various schemes connected with the rebuilding of Kingston, I have the honour to transmit a printed report describing a scheme for rebuilding the burned area, devised by Lord Mountmorres, and laid before the public by him.

It will be seen that Lord Mountmorres contemplated an Imperial guaranty of the debentures which he proposed the Trust should issue.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 132.

SCHEME TO REBUILD THE METROPOLIS.

PUBLIC MEETING WILL DEAL WITH IMPORTANT MEMORANDUM.

BEFORE CITY COUNCIL.

The City Council met again yesterday afternoon, when there were present: Messrs. G. P. Myers (Vice-Chairman), presiding; S. H. Watson, Hon. Dr. J. R. Love, Messrs. J. Wareham, N. M. Alexander, R. W. Bryant. Lord Mountmorres, Mr. Malcolm, and the Attorney-General were also present.

The discussion of Lord Mountmorres's rebuilding memorandum, the principal points in which are set out below; was immediately entered on. Mr. L. Foster Davis, who was unable to be present, wrote heartily supporting the scheme.

THE MEMORANDUM.

LORD MOUNTMORRES'S SCHEME.

Viscount Mountmorres then read the memorandum on the rebuilding of a part of Kingston, which he had printed and extensively circulated in the city:—

His Lordship estimated that the actual cost of rebuilding commercial Kingston would be three-quarters of a million sterling, and then continues:

"In the apparently likely event of the Insurance Companies refusing to pay any claims in this connection, this large outlay would have to be borne by the individuals whose properties have suffered, and it is safe to say that some of them would not be

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* No 119A. † Not printed.

in a position to meet their full share of the cost, whilst others would be seriously embarrassed in doing so. So that if the rebuilding be left entirely to unorganised individual effort: (*a*) the business quarter of the town will not be even as well built as before; and (*b*) much capital which can ill be spared will be locked up to the detriment of the prosperity of the island.

"The recent disaster has provided a unique opportunity of effecting great and much needed improvements in the town at a comparatively small cost . . . But in order to take advantage of this opportunity the promptest action is necessary, otherwise individual property owners will be committed to undertakings of reconstruction which would interfere with a general plan . . .

"It is proposed that a Building or Improvement Trust be formed by all the property owners in the burnt-out and immediately adjacent areas. The section of Kingston south of the Parade between West Street and Hanover Street, should be taken over by this Trust. Each owner would receive against the conveyance of his property to the Trust, shares or stock in the Trust representing the value of the property conveyed. The value of the property could best be arrived at by taking it, for purposes of the Trust, at so many years' purchase of its previous rateable value. The nominal capital of the Trust would then amount to the total value

OF THE WHOLE AREA

to be taken over, calculated on this basis, plus such small additional sum as might be necessary for working expenses. This additional sum should in no case exceed 1½ per cent. of the whole.

"The Trust thus formed would then issue mortgage debenture bonds at as low a rate of interest as possible, for an amount sufficient to rebuild the area it controlled on whatever lines might be agreed on between the Trust and the municipal and other authorities. An effort should be made to obtain Government assistance for this issue of debentures: (*a*) in the form of a guarantee of the capital and interest on such terms as might be approved; and (*b*) by subscription to, or guarantee of, a part of the issue. In any case—even were such aid unobtainable—an issue of debentures on the lines indicated would appeal very strongly at the present moment to the sympathies of the British moneyed public.

"The Trust working in close touch with the municipality and other authorities, would undertake to sell to the City Council, so much of the area under its control as might be necessary for agreed on improvements, at the original valuation, *i.e.*, at cost price. The remainder of the site would be offered by auction in suitable lots, under reserve, subject to an obligation on buyers to construct on each lot a building conformable to the general plan of reconstruction decided on, the Trust undertaking to advance on mortgage at a low rate of interest the money necessary for erecting such building. This money would be provided by the debenture issue, and would constitute a first charge on the site and building, and bear interest at only such a fractional increase over the debenture rate as would meet the cost of collection and management. The usual terms as to payment against construction would apply.

"In the event of the Trust not finding buyers for all sites on these terms, it could itself build on the remaining sites and let the buildings at rents to show a satisfactory profit. This and the enhancement in value of the sites sold would be divisible amongst the stock holders of the Trust, *i.e.*, the original property owners in the district in question.

"Some buyers of sites might not require monetary assistance for building purposes, or the Insurance Companies may eventually pay all fire claims. In these cases the Trust would have, from its debenture issue, a surplus capital available for the purpose of extending the improvements outside the limits of the original area, buying land adjacent and dealing with it similarly to the above.

"The control of the Trust should be vested in a Board thoroughly representative of all interests concerned, whether commercial or municipal, and no doubt if Imperial or Colonial aid were given, Government control in some form would be insisted on.

A PUBLIC MEETING.

Lord Mountmorres said he took it for granted that the Government would incorporate such a Trust free of cost, and he was also certain that if such a scheme were well recommended by the Local Government, the Imperial Government would guarantee the debentures. Everybody he had so far seen was in favour of the proposal. Of course, the wharfowners would not leave their present sites, and the Manager of the Colonial Bank, speaking for himself, did not think that the Bank authorities would leave their location—owing to the expensive vault that had been constructed. But the Bank people would, he felt sure, fall in line with others in giving up a portion of their frontage to the Improvement Trust. The churches would also remain where they were, but there were details, said his Lordship, that could be discussed later. But nothing could be done without the consent of the owners, and he suggested that the best course to adopt was to call a public meeting of the merchants and landowners for Wednesday to consider the question.

The chairman was quite agreeable to the scheme, and recommended it to the Council. The members, without tying themselves to any definite statement, appeared to be in favour of the proposal, and will attend the public meeting to be held at Canon Kilburn's lawn (Duke Street) to-morrow afternoon at 4 p.m.

No. 133.

THE GOVERNOR to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 28, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 144.]

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 14, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 22nd ultimo,* acknowledging the receipt of His Majesty's gracious message of sympathy with the sufferers from the recent earthquake, and to a like message received from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, I have the honour to transmit copies of two resolutions passed at the opening sitting of the Legislative Council.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 133.

RESOLUTION.

That this Council desires humbly to record its gratitude to their Majesties the King and Queen for the gracious message of sympathy with the sufferers from the recent earthquake received from their Majesties through the Secretary of State for the Colonies and to express its loyal devotion to the Crown.

Enclosure 2 in No. 133.

RESOLUTION.

That this Council desires to record its gratitude to the Prince and Princess of Wales for their gracious message of sympathy with the sufferers from the recent earthquake.

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* No. 93.

No. 134.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received February 28, 1907.)

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 14, 1907.

ON the 12th I had the honour to receive from you about 7.30 p.m. the enclosed telegram, No. 2,* to which I returned about 11 p.m. the enclosed reply.†

2. As regards the local Building Societies, none had any margin such as would be required to cover the cost and depreciation caused by an earthquake, and as such societies formed a favourite class of investment for savings, the earthquake has now swallowed up a considerable quantity of local capital almost without hope of recovery. The consequent privation and poverty is great.

3. As regards the commercial class, while there may be some shrinkage in imports (there should be none at first, as our demands for building materials will be heavy), this ought to be comparatively small, and there should be no diminution of exports.

Consequently, as a class, those engaged in commerce are comparatively less unfortunate than others, though many have lost quantities of very valuable stores by fire or other damage by the catastrophe.

4. This class is carrying on business in temporary sheds and hired houses, and those who still retain the confidence of their creditors should need no other assistance.

5. The professional class will certainly suffer from shrinkage of income by reason of their clients' poverty, and I cannot devise any plan by which Government can prevent such a result.

6. To build new and better buildings at a very highly increased cost (all building at present costs from 50 to 100 per cent. more than usual) for these two classes would, I fear, result in the new buildings remaining unlet at remunerative rates, and would thereby produce disappointment both to landlords and to possible tenants.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

No. 135.

MANSION HOUSE COMMITTEE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received February 28, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 139.]

SIR, The Mansion House, London, E.C., February 28, 1907.

IN reference to my letter of the 25th instant,‡ I beg to be permitted to mention that the Mansion House Committee of the Jamaica Earthquake Fund are desirous of supporting, by deputation, not only the request for a grant from the Treasury for relief purposes, but also the application for a loan of £1,000,000 for the rebuilding of the City of Kingston, under guarantee by the Colonial Government. If the Secretary of State could favour the Committee by allowing a small deputation to wait upon him on these two subjects, they would be obliged.

I am, &c.,
WILLIAM J. SOULSBY.

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* No. 99. † No. 103A. ‡ No. 126.

No. 136.

THE GOVERNOR OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 1, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 151.]

MY LORD, Government House, Antigua, February 4, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th ultimo,* I have the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, and for approval of my action, copies of correspondence with the Commissioner of Montserrat from which it will be seen that I have authorized Colonel Davidson-Houston to obtain a vote of his Legislative Council for a sum not exceeding £50 for the relief of the sufferers in Jamaica from the recent earthquake.

2. I am glad to be able to report that the amount raised in Antigua by private subscriptions for the Jamaica Relief Fund has attained the respectable figures of £210.

I have, &c.,
BICKHAM SWEET-ESCOTT,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 136.

SIR, Commissioner's Office, Montserrat, January 25, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Montserrat Executive Council held this day, and to request that you will submit same for the Governor's consideration.

2. A copy of the resolution adopted by the Council is also attached for transmission to the Government of Jamaica..

I have, &c.,
W. B. DAVIDSON-HOUSTON, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Commissioner.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of a Meeting of the Executive Council of Montserrat held on the 25th January, 1907.

The Commissioner mentioned the terrible calamity that had overtaken the town of Kingston and asked the advice of the Council as to taking a vote as a contribution to the Jamaica Relief Fund.

The Council thereupon drew up the following resolution:—

> "Resolved that this Council desires to express its heartfelt sympathy with the inhabitants of Jamaica in their terrible distress caused by the recent calamity, and would ask His Excellency the Governor to convey a copy of this resolution to the Government of Jamaica."

The Council recommended, for His Excellency's consideration, that, should it be required, a vote of £50 be taken as a contribution to the Jamaica Relief Fund.

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* No. 119A.

RESOLUTION adopted at a Meeting of the Executive Council of Montserrat on the 25th January, 1907.

"Resolved that this Council desires to express its heartfelt sympathy with the inhabitants of Jamaica in their terrible distress caused by the recent calamity, and would ask His Excellency the Governor to convey a copy of this resolution to the Government of Jamaica."

Enclosure 2 in No. 136.

SIR, Colonial Secretary's Office, Antigua, February 4, 1907.

I AM directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, and to inform you that it has given him much pleasure to transmit to the Governor of Jamaica the resolution of sympathy which was adopted by the Executive Council of your Presidency on the above date.

2. Whilst the Governor is confident that the Government of Jamaica will appreciate highly the tangible form in which the Executive Council of Montserrat desires to mark its sympathy with the sufferers from the Kingston earthquake, and whilst he has no objection to your remitting a sum not exceeding £50 from the public funds of the Presidency to the Governor of Jamaica for the Relief Fund, I am to inform you that the amounts contributed for a similar purpose from the public funds of St. Kitts-Nevis and Dominica were, respectively, £200 and £100. Your Honour may, therefore, think that a smaller sum should be voted by the Legislative Council of your Presidency. The Governor desires, however, to leave the matter to the decision of yourself and your Councils.

I am, &c.,
E. ST. JOHN BRANCH,
Colonial Secretary.

His Honour
The Commissioner,
Montserrat.

No. 137.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 1, 1907.)

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 11, 1907.

ON the 9th instant the following persons were received by me, at their instance, for the purpose of presenting the three papers enclosed:—

His Grace the Archbishop of the West Indies.
Mr. C. E. de Mercado (Messrs. Lascelles de Mercado and Company, Merchants, Kingston).
Mr. Lucie-Smith (Manager of the Kingston Branch, Colonial Bank).
Mr. A. W. Farquharson, Solicitor (Messrs. Farquharson and Milholland).
Mr. Walcott, Solicitor (Messrs. Walcott, Robinson, and Dunn).

2. The schemes these gentlemen advocated are set out in the papers enclosed. They embrace:—

(I.) An Imperial loan of at least one million for rebuilding.
(II.) An Imperial free grant of at least £150,000 for the same object.
(III.) Rebuilding on a definite plan with stringent provisions as to the class of buildings to be erected and as to the cubic area of such buildings.
(IV.) Widening certain existing streets.
(V.) The purchase by Government of a large site for new public offices.
(VI.) The acquisition of the land necessary for a sea-wall and the immediate construction of such a wall.

Incidentally also the schemes embrace:—

(VII.) The abolition of the present Council and Mayor of Kingston.
(VIII.) The abolition of the Kingston General Commissioners.
(IX.) The repeal of Law 31 of 1896 and the abandonment of the site therein contemplated for possible Government offices in future.

3. The greatest stress was laid on the importance of Schemes Nos. (II.) and (I.). I gathered from the explanations given that as regards the proposed free grant No. (II.) and the proposed Imperial loan No. (I.) no intervention or obligation by the Government of Jamaica was proposed or in contemplation, but that Schemes (VII.) and (VIII.) and perhaps (III.) depended on the adoption of Scheme No. (I.).

4. Schemes (IV.), (V.), (VI.), and (IX.) were proposed for the Local Government if it could procure the necessary funds.

5. I forward the papers without delay as the promoters attach great importance to this being done—I also forward extracts from the minutes of the Privy Council thereon.

6. I gathered from the promoters that they advance no claim to be clothed with any representative character in making these proposals, but they believe that most of the community in Kingston would, if canvassed, support them.

I gathered also that they had scarcely considered definitely the area to which proposals (I.) and (II.) should be applied—that the calculations made, applied to Kingston only and to the Liguanea Plain, excluding Port Royal and the remainder of the area marked (VI.) in the enclosure to my despatch of the 4th instant.*

The omission of Port Royal was *per incuriam*, but as regards the rest of the area marked (VI.) it was suggested that the case for the country was not nearly as strong as the case for the urban area, because in the country a house was only one of many incidental necessaries on a farm or rural property, whereas in a town the loss of the house practically rendered the lot useless.

7. As regards Schemes (I.) and (II.) I can only say that the relief proposed would be most welcome to the Colony if the Imperial Government decided to grant it. I entertain a strong scruple to discuss the schemes in detail because (i.) they are designed to be matters exclusively between the inhabitants of Kingston, or of the afflicted area, and the Imperial Government; and because (ii.) I think that those responsible for the schemes should themselves carry them out, and I feel persuaded that I, personally, shall not participate in such action.

8. As regards any schemes which the Local Government finds itself inclined to adopt I propose to address your Lordship separately.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 137.

Your Committee, to which was referred the question of rebuilding and improvements in Kingston, beg to report as follows:—

The different subjects that have engaged their attention may be summarized as follows:—

1. Sea-wall.
2. The widening and re-arrangement of streets and lanes.
3. Residences of the lower classes.
4. Erection of public buildings and sites suitable for same.
5. Suitable sites for blacksmiths' shops, bakeries, and other factories especially liable to cause fire risks.

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* Not printed.

1. Sea-wall.

This matter has from time to time engaged attention and the desirability for its erection and running a line of railway along the foreshore has been pretty generally recognised, but no definite steps have been taken in connection with the matter.

It is obvious that the present affords a unique opportunity for the construction of the wall. Hundreds of thousands of tons of *débris* from the city have to be disposed of, and we can think of no better method of disposition than dumping the same with a view to forming a sea-wall. A sub-committee has made a full investigation of the matter. The report of the sub-committee, which was unanimously adopted, is hereto attached. The scheme, as set forth in the report, appears to afford so many advantages, not merely to the business community but to the public generally, that we anticipate that no substantial opposition will be made to it; we, therefore, recommend that its adoption be urged by the Kingston Restoration Committee.

2. Widening the Streets.

Schedule No. 1 of the Kingston Improvements Amendment Law 28 of 1897 shows the original widths of the different streets and lanes in Kingston, and the law confers on the authorities power to restore the streets to their original width—see Section 23 and following sections. We think that it is most desirable that the provisions of this law should be carried out, with the alterations shown in schedule hereunder:—

Schedule.

Little Port Royal Street.—We recommend that this street be abolished.
Port Royal Street.—Land necessary to increase width to be taken from south side of street.
Water Lane.—40 feet from Hanover Street to Pechon Street.
Barry Street.—50 feet from Hanover Street to railway.
Beckford Street.—40 feet from Orange Street to West Street.
Laws Street.—To be continued through South Parade by removing encroachments at Wolmer's School and Parish Church.
East Queen Street and West Queen Street.—60 feet.
Pechon Street.—50 feet from Barry Street to Harbour Street.
Narrow passage leading from Harbour Street to Port Royal Street (evidently treated as continuation of Pechon Street in Law 28 of 1897).—50 feet.

As to Water Lane, it will be observed that we make a recommendation that the width of this should be increased to 40 feet. Various schemes have been under discussion, but, on the whole, your Committee is of opinion that if Water Lane be widened to 40 feet a considerable portion of the traffic which now finds its way on to Harbour Street would in the future pass over Water Lane, thus relieving the congestion of traffic on Harbour Street, which would, under the proposal, be restored to its original width of 50 feet. In order to effect this improvement it would be necessary for the authorities to acquire strips of land on the north of Water Lane. We think it would be a mistake to encroach upon the blocks between Harbour Street and Water Lane, as the width of these at present is such as not to allow of curtailment without reducing the importance of the premises on Harbour Street. This apparently is likely to continue the most important business centre, and we think that there should be no reduction of the size of the blocks to the north and south sides of Harbour Street. The width of these blocks at present is barely sufficient to allow of the erection of suitable buildings having a frontage both on Harbour Street and on Port Royal Street and Water Lane. The land necessary to increase the width of Port Royal Street should be acquired from the premises to the south of Port Royal Street. In view of the improvement to these premises by the proposed erection of a sea-wall, we do not think that the several owners should have any claim to compensation.

It will be observed in the schedule which appears above that we have recommended that Laws Street should, if possible, be continued along the South Parade, instead of ending as it does at present at the wall to the east of Wolmer's School.

3. Residences of the Lower Classes.

One of the most objectionable features in Kingston is the heterogeneous nature of the buildings in which the lower orders are housed. The vast majority of the buildings were badly constructed and insanitary. An opportunity such as the present will never occur again, and it appears to your Committee that the subject is one that calls for serious consideration. It is hardly necessary for us to enlarge on the evils that at present exist. Anyone in the slightest degree acquainted with existing conditions will recognise the justice of our comments on the subject.

We recommend that in any law in connection with buildings stringent provisions should be inserted as to the class of buildings to be erected and as to the cubic area of such buildings.

The benefits that would result from dealing with this matter in an enlightened way would be numerous. Amongst them would be the following:—

Improvement in the value of house property in the residential quarters of Kingston.

Better sanitary conditions in Kingston generally.

Raising the tone of the lower classes by increasing their self-respect.

Under this last head we think there could be no question that improved dwellings would undoubtedly have a civilizing effect.

4. Erection of Public Buildings.

The question of public buildings was dealt with exhaustively in the year 1896, and the conclusions arrived at were embodied in the Public Buildings Law 31 of 1896.

At the time the only sites that were available, without the expenditure of a very large sum of money for the purpose of acquiring land, were the Kingston Public Gardens and the block in Harbour Street on which the Post Office and Court House were erected.

Owing to the calamity of the 14th of January and to the destruction of practically all buildings in Kingston, it is obvious that the Government are in a position to select any sites in Kingston without incurring any inordinate expense.

Your Committee is of opinion that the present is an opportune occasion to urge on the Government the desirability of definite action in securing a site for the erection of public buildings and considers that the services of the Kingston General Commissioners should be placed at the disposal of the Government in dealing with the question as to the most suitable site for the buildings.

5. Suitable Sites for Blacksmiths' Shops, &c.

We think it is obvious that it would tend greatly to conserve the safety of the city if all factories in which the risk of fire exists were removed to the west of the city and out of the line of the prevailing trade winds.

So far as the existing factories, such as the Electric Light and Power Company and Ice Factory now located in the east of the city are concerned, the expense of removing them would perhaps be prohibitive, but we see no reason why provisions should not be made by law for the carrying on in the future of all such industries in the western portion of the city.

6. Among the matters that call for watchful consideration on the part of the citizens of Kingston are provisions in connection with:—

1. Materials to be used for building.
2. The maintenance of uniformity in—
   (*a*) The height and class of buildings to be erected in particular streets
   (*b*) The width and level of side walks and overhanging verandahs.
3. The rounding off of rectangular corners in thoroughfares.
4. The laying out of new streets in districts which may be opened up in the future.

7. Your Committee understand that the Government have now in hand a building law which will probably be placed before the Legislative Council at an early date. We entertain little doubt that before any Bill becomes law, the Government will afford opportunity for discussion, and will call for evidence on all material points.

8. Your Committee is of opinion that apart from any information that may be furnished by the citizens of Kingston generally, your Committee representing the Kingston Restoration Committee should have entrusted to it the duty of watching the progress of Legislation, and urging on the Government any recommendations that may be found to be desirable.

Kingston, February 5, 1907.

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON SEA WALL.

WE beg to recommend that provision be made in the Building Law for the acquisition of a strip of land along the foreshore, at least 50 feet in width from the water line. The said strip to extend from Hanover Street to West Street. This strip of foreshore to be utilized for the purposes of building a concrete sea wall along the water line, and for the construction of a properly graded and drained roadway at least 60 feet in width. Along this roadway at least two tracks of rails should be laid, thus putting all wharves in direct railway communication with the railway system, and also one with another.

It was estimated some years ago that such a sea wall, constructed of cement concrete in an average depth of water of five feet together with the filling in behind and the foundation of the roadway or railway tracks might be constructed for £35,000. At that time the whole of the wharf owners, with the exception of one, and the military authorities, who own the Ordinance, pledged themselves to give up the necessary land without asking for compensation.

We do not propose at this stage to enter into the question of compensation.

The present forms a unique opportunity for carrying out this project. Not only are all boundaries obliterated, but a chance occurs for utilizing all the *débris* that now encumbers the burnt out area. This will render the cost of carrying out the scheme much less expensive. Some of the advantages of constructing this sea wall may be enumerated as follows:—

1st. The rendering of the appearance of Kingston far more sightly from the harbour.

2nd. The improved sanitary conditions that will result from filling in and raising the whole of the area behind the wall. At present this area is very low lying, almost swampy in places, and it is pierced with crab holes that furnish every opportunity for mosquitoes to breed. It will also prevent the deposit of floating rubbish on the beach, which now rots on the water edge.

3rd. The prevention of the silting and filling up that now goes on in the harbour.

4th. The facility a new roadway, provided with lines of rail, will afford in the handling of cargoes, especially fruit cargoes, not only of one wharf with another, but by placing the 21 wharves of Kingston in direct communication with the railway system and with the country generally.

5th. As an additional means of communication from one end of the town to the other.

6th. It will greatly facilitate Custom House supervision, and at least halve the present expense.

7th. It will improve the fire extinguishing service by admitting of the connection of the 12-inches water mains that run down Hanover, Duke and West Streets with a similar sized main running along the water front,

thus giving a more plentiful supply, and providing a greater pressure in case of fire in the lower part of the town.

SIMON SOUTAR.
G. N. COX.
W. H. JOHNSON.

Enclosure 2 in No. 137.

TO THE KINGSTON RESTORATION COMMITTEE.

THE Committee appointed by you to prepare a statement of the damage done by the recent fire and earthquake, and to advise on the subject of obtaining an Imperial grant and loan for re-building, and also to recommend measures to be taken to secure the same,

Report as follows:—

As to the Damage done in the City and Parish of Kingston.—By careful examination of the assessment rolls and the valuation roll of the City and Parish of Kingston, and by reference more particularly to a statement attached to the Collector-General's Report for 1905-06, showing the number of houses on which taxes were paid during that year with their rental values, the Committee state that the value of buildings in Kingston before the fire and earthquake not including municipal buildings, Government buildings, buildings of the Kingston General Commissioners, and churches was £1,819,133.

This valuation has been computed by taking the annual assessed rental, as given in the statement of the Collector-General above referred to, at 15 years' purchase. Your Committee tested this method of valuation in many ways, and more particularly by valuing the buildings in Port Royal Street, Little Port Royal Street, and Harbour Street, each by itself, and the total arrived at was almost identical with the total shown by computing the value from the annual assessed rental in the manner mentioned above.

The Damage done.—Your Committee have thought it advisable to divide their estimate of the damage done under two heads:—

(1) The principal business portion of the city, which was nearly all burnt.
(2) The residential portion of the city.

As to the Business Portion of the City.—They estimate the value of the buildings in this area to have been £522,921, and are of opinion that the value of any saved portion of buildings in this area does not exceed 5 per cent. of the total. The streets included in this area are Port Royal Street, Little Port Royal Street, Harbour Street, King Street to the Parade, Church Street below Barry Street, Orange Street below the Parade, and the Parade. They admit that this is but a rough estimate of the total damage done to the business portion of the city, because it does not include Princes Street, nor does it include many of the cross streets, such as Barry Street, Tower Street, and Water Lane, &c., in which there are many business places, nor does it include Upper Orange Street.

As to the Residential Portion of the City.—This would also include many business places omitted from (1). The value of the buildings in this portion of the city, computed as already stated, amounts to £1,296,212, and the damage done to this section of the city is, in the opinion of your Committee, 75 per cent. of such valuation.

From the above figures, it will be seen that we compute the damage to the entire city as £1,468,934.

As to the Damage done in Lower St. Andrew.—The Committee, of which this, a sub-Committee, is called "The Kingston Restoration Committee," but your Committee presumes that you desire them to consider the damage done in Lower St Andrew, or the so-called Liguanea District.

To obtain information as to the value of the buildings in this district before the earthquake, the valuation roll of the parish was examined, and taking therefrom the annual rental value as assessed, and adopting the same process of valuing the buildings, the total value of buildings in St. Andrew would have been £441,733.

However, as this includes land values which we estimate at £100,000. the value of the buildings may, therefore, be taken as £311,733, and the value of the damage as 50 per cent., having regard to the number of small houses which were not destroyed. The damage to buildings in Lower St. Andrew may thus be taken as £155,866.

The total damage by the fire and earthquake consequently in Kingston and Lower St. Andrew amounts to the large sum of £1,624,800.

The Government buildings exclusive of the railway and railway wharf in Kingston, your Committee was made to understand, were valued at £196,000, and your Committee considers that the damage done to these is approximately £80,000.

The damage done to railway buildings, &c., in Kingston is estimated at £25,000.

The damage done to churches and church property exceeds £80,000.

The damage done to municipal buildings is estimated at £10,000, including Wolmer's Schools.

The damage done to the buildings of the Kingston General Commissioners is estimated at £25,000, including losses from house sewer installations.

Your Committee are appalled at the serious situation these figures reveal.

Sources from which Money might be obtained.—The sources from which money might be obtained to restore the private buildings have all been carefully gauged, and in this respect they have thought it proper to examine the sources from which hitherto such money has been obtained. There have been chiefly the local building societies. To a smaller extent two local insurance companies, a fire and a life, and certain private individuals. Taking 1904 for which records of the mortgages passing through the Island Record Office and Registration of Titles Office are available to us, we find that the total loans on mortgages on Kingston property amounted to but £46,000. This was considerably contributed to by the building societies, and will give an idea of how little money is available in the Island for such purposes, for even a small sum like this could not be obtained at this moment from the same sources under existing conditions. The building societies will be expected to pay out deposits, and to assist their shareholders. The Life Company is bound to keep a large proportion of its funds in liquid form, and the Fire Company will have to meet the claims of the policy holders for losses. Private individuals who usually lent money on Kingston mortgages are themselves heavy losers by the fire, &c., and will, therefore, have no money available for further loans.

The amount to be recovered from the insurance companies would only apply to the burnt area, and up to now the insurance companies have refused to admit any liability. In any case, the insurance to be recovered is less than the amount of the loss, and would be inadequate to meet the situation.

The local banks do not lend money on mortgage of real estate. The Local Government have been, and will be under heavy strain in order to meet the Government losses, and the restoration of its buildings as well as the extraordinary expenditure due to the disaster and to assist the municipal finances of Kingston.

Imperial Grant and Loan.—Under all the circumstances above set out, this ancient and loyal Colony can only look to the Imperial Government for assistance. Such assistance your Committee thinks should be as follows:—

1. A grant of £150,000 to be used in assisting those people to rebuild who would be totally unable to pay interest or sinking fund on a loan.

This sum of £150,000 would be totally inadequate to completely restore the buildings of these people, but with the Mansion House Fund would give considerable relief to the class of people mentioned above. It is calculated that £60,000 was the value of the property on which before the fire and earthquake, relief from taxation was granted in Kingston. This alone will show how inadequate a sum is the grant mentioned above.

2. Imperial Loan of £1,000,000.

Your Committee think that the Imperial Government should be asked for a loan of £1,000,000, to be lent to those people who can afford to pay interest and sinking fund. This sum is also much less than the amount which would be required, and

could be utilised. They consider that this question of the loan in order to be acceptably received by the Imperial Government must be put forward as a business proposition. They cannot tell on what terms the Imperial Government could raise the money, and therefore, cannot suggest a rate of interest. But your Committee are of opinion that the annual rate to be paid by the borrowers, including working expenses, should not exceed 6 per cent., of which at least 2 per cent. should be a payment by borrowers to a fund for the redemption of their properties. They further consider that whilst interest should be paid from the date of the loan, that the sinking fund should not commence till two years after the granting of the loan.

As regards the method of the working of this loan must necessarily be left to the Imperial Authorities to decide, but this Committee offer their hearty co-operation in devising and arranging all details.

Measures to Secure Loan.—Your Committee recommend that His Excellency the Governor be approached by a deputation, and that his hearty co-operation be requested in obtaining the assistance asked for. They consider that this is most important.

Your Committee have omitted from this report many details and proofs of their statements, which however the Chairman and Secretary would be able fully to explain to His Excellency the Governor.

The Committee further recommend that the influence of the West India Committee, and of important and representative men in England be obtained in urging the need for Imperial aid, and further, that, if it be found necessary, a delegate should be sent from Jamaica, whose expenses shall be paid out of a fiund to be raised by the Kingston Restoration Committee.

ON BEHALF OF COMMITTEE,
CHARLES E. DE MERCADO,
Chairman.

Enclosure 3 in No. 137.

MEMORANDUM.

KINGSTON.

MANAGEMENT DURING THE ABNORMAL CONDITIONS NOW EXISTING AS THE RESULT OF THE EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE; AND THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE CITY.

I. MANAGEMENT.

A large section of the city is absolutely destroyed and no buildings remain therein. In the rest of the city many buildings are destroyed; many are badly damaged, but capable of repair; and others, including many small wooden structures, are in a condition needing only slight repairs. Most of the people are unable, for lack of means, and material, and control of skilled labour, to do anything at present towards restoring their own buildings. The regular financial resources of the city have vanished. The Government will probably provide resources in lieu of rates and taxes for this year. After this year, partial ordinary income will be obtainable. It is evident that those who could carry on the ordinary business of managing the affairs of the city when conditions were normal, cannot be expected to deal with this extraordinary emergency. In city management there is much division of authority, which hinders speedy and salutary action. No suggestion is here made as to the needful organization for the future permanent management of the affairs of Kingston, but the authority and the management of the bodies at present doing this work should, immediately, by legislative enactment, be suspended for two years. All the sources of city authority should be unified. One paid officer should be placed at the head, all the departments working under him. There should be an Advisory Board, composed of the heads of various rearranged city departments, with the Mayor and Vice-Chairman of the present City Council and two or three independent

gentlemen on that same Advisory Board to represent general opinion. The head, who might be called City Manager, should have a controlling voice, after consultation with this Advisory Board, and within the provision of laws, in existence or to be enacted.

The reorganized city department, each with its departmental chief, all acting together under the City Manager, might be as follows:—

(1) *Department A.*—General, including much of the business now done at City Council Office.

(2) *Department B.*—The business now done at the office of the Kingston General Commissioners.

(3) *Department C.*—Health Office and Sanitation.

(4) *Department D.*—Water Supply.

(5) *Department E.*—Buildings. A new department dealing with all matters of public control relating to buildings, including such portions of repairs and re-erections as may be effected out of charitable funds or public gifts or loans. There would be some necessary modifications and transfer of duties from one department to another under this revised arrangement.

It is imperative to get rid of circumlocution, of divided authority, and of waste of time spent in writing minutes from one department to another; and instead to have prompt, decisive, united, continuous action of all departments. At the head and on the staff of existing departments there are men quite able to render efficient service under such reorganized conditions as are indicated. There are a few men in these departments who, if relieved from the evil methods of excessive routine, are capable of rendering *special* service to the town. Others from outside could be brought in where necessary.

II. Permanent Reconstruction.

1. An amended Building Law.—The Government is considering this question. It is necessary to get the advice of all competent available architects, and of a sufficient number of representative business men, before finally deciding on the details of such law, and this can be quickly done. The law ought to, and no doubt will, provide special, stringent, but workable regulations for rebuilding the burnt area, including material to be used and method of construction, and also regular inspection. It could be provided that the buildings outside the burnt area should be dealt with on the same lines as far as reconstruction is needful; modifications being allowed in the case of existing buildings which can be repaired.

2. Resources for Reconstruction.—(1) Among the means which will be available for reconstruction it is hoped that payments by Insurance Companies will find the first place. Pressure may require to be brought to bear on the various Companies. I assume that at present they are only standing on technical legal rights. I do not know what the legal position is. It may perhaps have to be submitted to the Courts. The merchants and others will, no doubt, obtain good advice on that point.

(2) The Government and Legislature will, it may be hoped, be able to appropriate some money from general revenue towards this object.

(3) There will also, I hope, be some considerable sum reserved from the Mansion House and other funds after fully meeting necessary personal needs.

(4) We must ask for an Imperial grant.

(5) We must ask for an Imperial loan.

(6) Finally, there will be the resources of private individuals.

(7) In the appropriation of some of the aforesaid classes of resources, church buildings of all denominations will have a legitimate claim for an equitable share.

It is of the utmost importance that the citizens take immediate steps to supplement the efforts which the Island Government and the Legislature may be willing

to make to secure the Imperial assistance above indicated. Every possible influence should be brought to bear on individual members of Parliament and on the British Government, to secure action now, while sympathy is warm, and interest deep, and the great need apparent.

III. Immediate Requirements.

1. The public authority should immediately have all dangerous portions of buildings pulled down, and, first of all, such as are projecting into or threatening the streets; and all *débris* should be cleared away at once.

2. All the foundations and principal portions of houses should be examined, and safe buildings or safe sections of buildings indicated to residents that they may use them. Portions now unsafe but capable of being propped up and made secure should be so dealt with. Temporary wooden erections of the nature of sheds should be built in available spots in the yards of larger houses, so that the inmates would have safe and sufficiently sheltered places where they could sleep, using broken and open but safe portions of the house in the daytime.

3. All the smaller houses which are standing should be similarly examined, and, wherever possible, at moderate cost, be made safe for habitation.

4. The sanitary conditions should be attended to with special care all the time everywhere.

The action specified in numbers (1), (2), and (3) under the above heading of immediate requirements, should be taken in respect of all houses, charging the well-to-do with the cost, if they do not first get the work done under their own direction. In justification of the above action it must be borne in mind that nearly every person has sustained losses which are either actually or relatively great; that many who, in ordinary circumstances, could find labour and direct and pay for it, can do none of these things at the present time; and that among the benefits derivable from the private charity and the public help now and hereafter to be available, none is more important to secure than the safe and healthy accommodation of the people.

This memorandum is written with the view of putting together in a form which may be of service to the public ideas and suggestions which have come from many individuals, besides other ideas resulting from personal observation and experience. The main purpose is to stimulate immediate action on the part of public authorities and private persons, and to help to give heart and hope to many people who see no way out of their present difficulties.

E. Jamaica,
Archbishop of the West Indies.

Kingston,
January 26, 1907.

Enclosure 4 in No. 137.

Report by the Executive Committee on Section 1 of the Archbishop's Memorandum.

I. City Management.

It is recommended that Section I. of the Archbishop's Memorandum concerning city management be brought to the notice of His Excellency the Governor, with a recommendation from the General Committee that it may receive the favourable consideration of the Government at an early date; as it appears to the Committee to have an important bearing on the plans being formed for the rebuilding of the city, and especially on the proposals to ask the Imperial Government for a grant and a loan. The Committee desires to put formally on record what was stated by the Archbishop in submitting this section of the Memorandum to the meeting which first considered it, and what appears to express the opinions of the great majority of the intelligent citizens of Kingston on this subject.

1. The suggestion respecting temporary change in the city government at the present time is not in the smallest degree intended as our reflection on the

existing City Council, most persons being fully conscious of the valuable service rendered to the community by the Council, from time to time, under the guidance of various Mayors, notwithstanding the difficulties resulting from division of authority in the city management, from insufficient resources, and from the very limited interest in, and support of, the city government, by the general public.

2. The proposals in this section of the memorandum are made without prejudice to the right of the citizens of Kingston to claim, when normal conditions have been restored, such share in city government by elective representatives as may then seem best calculated to secure, under a revised constitution, the effective permanent government of the city; and it is desired that this intention should be declared in the Legislative enactment, which may be adopted providing temporarily for the management of the city.

3. The proposals are made in the belief that approximately they specify the best available methods for meeting satisfactorily the following special conditions and needs which cannot be ignored:—

(1) The magnitude of the recent disaster so far as it concerns the City of Kingston, and the entire breakdown of city life and business, furnishes a situation that in itself renders necessary some method of strengthening the city government.

(2) In view of desired and expected aid from the Imperial Government, it should be shown that the citizens of Kingston are ready to give needful guarantee of effective control of all the operations that may be included in rebuilding.

(3) A considerable portion of both the larger and smaller holder of property in Kingston will be borrowers from the Imperial fund; and they can hardly expect at the same time to control the management of such loans, or the appointment of those responsible for such management.

(4) It is very desirable that a department of the city organization rather than a Department of the Island Government should control the detailed financial and business operations required for dealing with the future of the city, such operations being subject to general regulations approved by the Imperial Government, and set forth by the authority of the Island Government, and the Legislature.

(5) It is strongly desired that unification of the city government should be sought and secured at the same time.

(6) It is hoped to see developed out of the present situation a fuller interest in the civic life of the community by the general body of intelligent citizens.

(7) It is remembered also that Kingston is not merely an individual city, but it is a principal emporium for the trade of the whole Island, and is also the capital of the Island, and that these facts have to be borne in mind in making both temporary and permanent arrangements for the wise and effective Government of the city.

II. An Alternative Plan.

The foregoing proposals are recommended in the belief that it would not be possible at an early date to mature and carry into effect legislation for a modified permanent arrangement for the management of the city. But some members believe this could be done. If the Government is able and willing to take this course, the whole Committee will gladly support it, provided in the proposed re-arrangement the following chief things are secured on which there is practical unanimity:—

(1) Responsible authority and power vested in a paid officer, who would be the head of the city management, whatever name he might be called by. Such power to be regulated by legal enactment, and to be qualified by the advice of a Council, which he would be bound to consult in matters of principle and policy, and when necessary of details; but he would be empowered to act otherwise than according to the advice given if in his judgment the necessities of the city required this.

(2) In the composition of such Council there would be a proportion of elected members and a proportion of nominated members, representing special knowledge and business capacity.

(3) The re-organization of all departments concerned in the management of the city and the unification of such management, bringing the departments under the control of the head.

If the Government is prepared to take up this matter now, and deal with it thoroughly, there are some strong reasons in favour of such a step, and in representing the intelligent citizens of Kingston, this Committee will give all the aid in its power. Appended is a statement by Mr. Foster Davis, suggesting in outline a scheme for permanent city management, which is not submitted as being endorsed by this Committee, but as a contribution to a permanent settlement, and as indicating what has been in the mind of a citizen who has taken an active part in the city government.

III. Enlargement of the Boundaries of the City of Kingston.

There is a strong feeling among a large section of the community that for many reasons the boundaries of the City of Kingston should be enlarged so as to include a portion of the parish of St. Andrew lying to the north; and it appears to them that the time is opportune for making this enlargement if satisfactory arrangements can be arrived at. Other persons are impressed with the great difficulties in arriving at a satisfactory solution of this matter. The various recommendations made in respect of city government do not depend on any present settlement of city enlargement. In any case, it might be best to deal with that matter by separate enactment. Whenever the Government is prepared to take action in the matter, this Committee will submit to the consideration of the Government information and suggestions on this subject drawn from various available sources.

On behalf of the Committee,
E. Jamaica (Chairman).
R. A. Walcott,
Acting Secretary.

Enclosure 5 in No. 137.

Minutes of Privy Council Meeting held at Headquarter House on Saturday the 9th February, 1907, at 12 o'clock noon.

At a meeting of the Privy Council held at Headquarter House on Saturday the 9th February, 1907, at 12 o'clock noon,

Present:—

His Excellency the Governor.
The Honourable the Senior Military Officer.
The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.
The Honourable the Attorney-General.
The Honourable V. G. Bell, C.E., C.M.G., Director of Public Works.
The Honourable L. J. Bertram, C.M.G., Auditor-General.
The Honourable Dr. J. Pringle, C.M.G., entered and took his seat during the proceedings.

The meeting was convened for the purpose of receiving a Deputation of the Executive Committee of the Kingston Restoration Committee who desired an interview in reference to reports by the Sub-Committee respecting

(*a*) The Building Law;
(*b*) An Imperial Grant and Loan;

and a report by the Executive Committee on

(*c*) City Management.

The members of the Deputation consisting of:—

His Grace the Archbishop of the West Indies, Chairman of the Executive Committee;
Mr. C. E. de Mercado, Chairman of the Kingston Restoration Committee;
Mr. A. W. Farquharson, Chairman, Building Law Committee;
Mr. E. W. Lucie-Smith, Manager, Colonial Bank; and
Mr. R. A. Walcott, Acting Secretary, Kingston Restoration Committee;
were admitted.

The Archbishop referred to the various proposals contained in the reports and explained that it was not expected that all the improvements aimed at could be carried out at once, but urged the importance of having the support of the Government in obtaining a loan and grant from the Imperial Government.

The other members of the Deputation also addressed the Council and urged that the Government should give their support to the application.

After discussion of the various matters the Deputation withdrew.

The Council then adjourned.

Confirmed:
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

February 11, 1907.

Enclosure 6 in No. 137.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Privy Council Meeting held at Headquarter House on Monday, 11th February, 1907, at 1 p.m.

Present:—

His Excellency the Governor.
The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.
The Honourable the Attorney-General.
The Honourable V. G. Bell, C.E., C.M.G., Director of Public Works.
The Honourable Dr. Pringle, M.D., C.M.G.
The Honourable L. J. Bertram, C.M.G., Auditor-General.

* * * * * * *

The Governor read a draft despatch to the Secretary of State transmitting the schemes advocated by the members of the Deputation who waited on the Council at the meeting of the Privy Council held on 9th February.

After a discussion the Governor invited an expression of the opinions of each member of the Privy Council in regard to the proposal for an Imperial Loan.

The Colonial Secretary said he would be very glad if the Imperial Government would make a loan, but that he was strongly opposed to any guarantee by the Colony and would prefer no loan if the Colony is required to guarantee it. Such a guarantee would involve risk of loss, which this Colony could not afford.

The Attorney-General said he considered a loan guaranteed by Imperial or Local Government necessary if Kingston is to be properly rebuilt within the next few years.

The loan could, he thought, be distributed in loans to landowners in Kingston on a safe business basis. The loans to landowners for building purposes should not exceed twice the value of the site and should be advanced in instalments as the buildings progress. The proposal made under which the money would be obtained by the Imperial or Local Government at 3½ per cent. or less, and loaned out at 6 per cent. seemed to him to make fair provision for sinking fund and expenses. Under this scheme the security held by the Government would be continually improving, by portions of the principal being paid off annually by means of the contributions to sinking fund.

Dr. Pringle said that his views were the same as those expressed by the Attorney-General.

Mr. Bell said he had nothing to say on the subject except that he was opposed to any such loan being guaranteed by the Colony.

Mr. Bertram said his views were the same as those contained in the Governor's draft despatch, paragraph 7.

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No. 138.

THE HALIFAX AND BERMUDAS CABLE COMPANY, LIMITED, to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received March 2, 1907.)

[*See No.* 143.]

SIR, 33, Old Broad Street, London, E.C., March 1, 1907.

THE following telegram has been received this morning, viz.:—

"To the Secretary of State for the Colonies, London.

"General desire that Imperial Government's decision in grant and loan should await petition now being signed, and full information which at request of citizens I am bringing. Leaving earliest possible date. Earnestly urge no final decision be made till my arrival. Asked Governor cable requesting this delay, he suggested my cabling direct.—ARCHBISHOP OF WEST INDIES."

I am, &c.;
JOSEPH RIPPON,
General Manager.

No. 139.

COLONIAL OFFICE to THE MANSION HOUSE COMMITTEE.

SIR, Downing Street, March 1, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 25th February and 28th February,* on the subject of the proposals for Imperial assistance for the relief of the sufferers by the Jamaica earthquake, and for the re-building of the City of Kingston.

Lord Elgin has these questions under his careful consideration, and he would prefer to defer for a few days his reply to the request that he should receive a deputation from the Mansion House Committee.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 140.

THE GOVERNOR OF BRITISH HONDURAS to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 4, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 149.]

MY LORD, Government House, Belize, February 14, 1907.

ON the 31st ultimo I had the honour to telegraph† to your Lordship that the Legislative Council had voted a sum of $1,000 in relief of the sufferers from the recent earthquake at Jamaica.

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* Nos. 126 and 135. † No. 85.

2. I now have the pleasure to inform your Lordship that the Government officials and the churches and the commercial community of the Colony have been collecting private subscriptions for the same purpose, and that $2,500 has been paid to the Treasury on this account.

I have, therefore, requested the Crown Agents to pay a sum of £500 to Jamaica.

3. Further amounts have yet to be received which will be transmitted in due course.

I have, &c.,
E. J. E. SWAYNE, Colonel,
Governor.

No. 141.

THE LORD PROVOST OF GLASGOW to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received March 5, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 142.]

City Chambers, Glasgow, March 4, 1907.

The Earthquake Disaster in Jamaica.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour and pleasure to enclose to your Lordship draft for £850 as a second instalment of the fund being raised in Glasgow for the relief of the sufferers in Jamaica. I shall thank your Lordship to have the amount transmitted as before.

I have, &c.,
WILLIAM BILSLAND,
Lord Provost.

No. 142.

COLONIAL OFFICE to THE LORD PROVOST OF GLASGOW.

MY LORD, Downing Street, March 5, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant* enclosing a draft for £850 as a second instalment of the fund which is being raised in Glasgow for the relief of the sufferers in the recent earthquake in Jamaica, and I am to convey to you, on behalf of the Government and people of Jamaica, his Lordship's cordial thanks for this further generous contribution, which has been added to the Relief Fund.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 143.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

(Sent 1.40 p.m., March 5, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

March 5. No. 1. Inform Archbishop that I have received his telegram† asking that decision of His Majesty's Government as to grant and loan may await his arrival in this country, that the subject of Imperial aid is receiving my fullest consideration, but that I am not in a position at present to give him any pledge or guidance in the matter.—ELGIN.

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* No. 141.

† See No. 138.

No. 144.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

SIR, Downing Street, March 7, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 14th of February,* and to inform you that I have caused copies of the resolutions passed by the Legislative Council of Jamaica therein transmitted, to be communicated to their Majesties and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 145.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR.

SIR, Downing Street, March 7, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Crown Agents for the Colonies have received from the Lord Mayor of Bristol a sum of £1,000 contributed by the citizens of Bristol for the relief of the sufferers by the recent earthquake.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 146.

COLONIAL OFFICE to THE LORD MAYOR OF BRISTOL.

MY LORD, Downing Street, March 7, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to inform you that he has learnt with much pleasure from the Crown Agents for the Colonies of the receipt of the sum of £1,000 from the fund subscribed by the citizens of Bristol towards the relief of the sufferers in the recent earthquake in Jamaica, and I am to convey to you, on behalf of the Government and people of Jamaica, his Lordship's cordial thanks for this generous contribution.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 147.

THE WEST INDIA ASSOCIATION OF GLASGOW to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received March 8, 1907.)

West India Association of Glasgow,

YOUR LORDSHIP, 111, Bath Street, Glasgow, March 7, 1907.

THE Directors of this Association have received from their Chairman, Mr. Crum Ewing, at present in Jamaica, a letter urging the necessity for an Imperial loan to the Island of Jamaica for the rebuilding of Kingston. Mr. Crum Ewing says that no description of the awful devastation caused by the earthquake, or of the immense suffering therefrom, can be adequately given. All the facts of the case have no doubt been placed before your Lordship by Sir Alexander Swettenham and the deputation of eye-witnesses who waited upon your Lordship on 15th February.

My Directors venture, however, as representing this Association, which is intimately connected with the island, to add their voice to the appeal by the people of Jamaica to the British Government, for a free grant of £150,000 and a loan of £1,000,000.

I have, &c.,
JNO. EWING,
Hon. Secretary.

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* No. 133.

No. 147A.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received March 12, 1907.)

SIR, Admiralty, March 8, 1907.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Earl of Elgin, copy of a letter dated 31st January, 1907, with enclosures, from the Commanding Officer, H.M.S. "Brilliant," relative to proceedings at Jamaica after the earthquake.

I am, &c.,
C. I. THOMAS.

Enclosure in No. 147A.

(Extract.)

SIR, "Brilliant," at St. Lucia, January 31, 1907.

IN continuation of my General Letter, No. 7/97, of 22nd instant, I have the honour to report that I arrived off Port Royal, Jamaica, on the morning of the 22nd January, and, having ascertained that the channels were clear, I proceeded to Kingston, and found there H.M.S. "Indefatigable."

2. The same day I waited upon His Excellency the Governor, and submitted to him a list of the stores and provisions which I had brought. As soon as practicable I disembarked such articles as His Excellency required, and telegraphed to their Lordships for instructions as to the disposal of the remainder.

3. In the forenoon of the same day the Haitian warship "Nord Alexis," bearing the flag of Vice-Admiral Le Bon, arrived, as also the French Cruiser "Kléber," bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Thierry. The usual salutes and visits were exchanged, with the exception that there being no fort available to return the salutes to the National Flag, and there being no time to communicate with His Excellency the Governor, I took upon myself to order the salutes to be returned by one of His Majesty's ships, a proceeding in which His Excellency afterwards concurred.

* * * * * * *

5. Subsequent to my telegram No. 9, His Excellency the Governor authorised me to land the transport bedding and blankets. Also the General Commanding applied for 2,232 lbs. of preserved beef which I supplied to him.

6. Not knowing anything about the catastrophe but the bare fact, I had made every preparation for landing a medical staff for a small temporary naval hospital, and for fitting it to take 20 patients, under a scheme, carefully thought out in every detail and submitted to me by the Staff Surgeon. I found amongst the ship's company two men who possessed certificates for first aid, one having also been through a course for home nursing, and one man who had passed for sick berth attendant at Haslar Hospital, whose services would have been very useful had the occasion arisen.

I had also arranged to establish a naval relief depôt, the victualling scheme for which had been elaborately worked out by the Acting Paymaster; but neither was required.

7. On 25th January the Haitian man-of-war "Nord Alexis" sailed, having landed a quantity of relief stores.

The French cruiser "Kléber" also landed about 70 tons of stores for the relief of the inhabitants at Kingston.

8. In compliance with Admiralty telegram received on 26th January (No. 9), I discharged on the 27th the remaining stores to the charge of Major Thompson, Army Ordnance Department (who took them as a matter of courtesy), for transfer to Pickford and Black for conveyance to Bermuda; it being Sunday Messrs. Pickford and Black's offices were not open, and I did not wish to delay the ship.

9. Having ascertained that His Excellency the Governor did not require

my services any longer, I sailed for St. Lucia on 27th January to coal, and afterwards proceed to the coast of South America.

I have, &c.,
ROB. H. ANSTRUTHER,
Captain.

The Secretary
Of the Admiralty.

(No. 370.)

YOUR EXCELLENCY, "Brilliant," at Kingston, Jamaica, January 24, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to inform Your Excellency that I have heard indirectly that the Relief Committee is in want of certain articles which I have on board. I have caused the Committee to be informed that I expect all applications for relief stores to come to me through Your Excellency, but at the same time I do not wish to be too punctilious as the circumstances are exceptional, so I should be glad to know if Your Excellency has any objection to my turning the required stores over to some responsible person on demand.

2. I beg further to inform Your Excellency that I yesterday supplied the General Officer Commanding the Troops with a certain amount of provisions which he required, informing him at the same time of my interview with Your Excellency with regard to the supply of the provisions and stores which I have brought by Admiralty directions for the Island.

I have, &c.,
ROB. H. ANSTRUTHER,
Captain.

His Excellency
Sir James Alexander Swettenham, K.C.M.G.,
Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief,
Jamaica.

SIR, January 24, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to thank you for your letter of to-day.

On reference to the Committee of Relief I find they would be glad to have the following additional stores from those brought by the "Brilliant," viz.:—

Transport bedding, 1,000 No.
Blankets, 830 No., viz., 280 clean, 550 dirty,

which should be landed at the Ordnance Store as before.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

Captain Anstruther, R.N.,
H.M.S. "Brilliant,"
Kingston Harbour.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, "Brilliant," at Kingston, Jamaica, January 26, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to inform Your Excellency that I am ordered to proceed to sea, if Your Excellency does not require my services.

As I already understand from Your Excellency that such is the case, I shall proceed to Buenos Aires as soon as I can get the relief stores landed and put in charge of Messrs. Pickford and Black for return to Bermuda by freight ship, which in all probability will be by to-morrow.

I have, &c.,
ROB. H. ANSTRUTHER,
Captain.

His Excellency
Sir James Alexander Swettenham, K.C.M.G.,
Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief,
Jamaica.

(No. 703/1327.)

SIR, King's House, Jamaica, January 26, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to thank you for your letter of the 26th, and to express a hope that you will permit the Colonial Government to pay the cost of landing and restoring to Bermuda the stores so kindly sent, which we found to be in excess of our actual need.

2. If you will instruct Messrs. Pickford and Black's agent to this effect his bill will be discharged by me.

3. In wishing farewell I desire on behalf of the sufferers, the Colony, and the Government, to express our very great obligations to you for so promptly coming to our assistance, and for the great services you have rendered in succouring the unfortunate. With best wishes,

Believe me, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM.

Captain Anstruther, R.N.,
Senior Naval Officer,
H.M.S. "Brilliant."

YOUR EXCELLENCY, "Brilliant," at Kingston, Jamaica, January 25, 1907.

IN compliance with Your Excellency's request, I called on Captain Nelson-Ward, of the "Indefatigable," for a report on the Plumb Point Light which he has been working about since he came here.

He reports as follows:—

> "I had the sectors tested, as it was reported that the lighthouse had received a slight twist, but they are correct. Lamps in use are temporary, and I do not yet know whether their brilliancy is sufficient. The lighthouse itself has been badly shaken. I have a party at work to strengthen the structure with iron bands, and the Director of Public Works proposes to further strengthen the lighthouse by an additional cement base."

I trust that this report will be satisfactory to Your Excellency.

I have, &c.,
ROB. H. ANSTRUTHER,
Captain.

His Excellency
Sir James Alexander Swettenham, K.C.M.G.,
Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief,
Jamaica.

(No. 702/1274.)

SIR, King's House, Jamaica, January 26, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to thank you most heartily for your letter of to-day, and for the trouble you and Captain Nelson-Ward, R.N., have taken to restore and make safe the Plumb Point Light.

I am trying to arrange temporarily through the Harbour Master for more courageous light keepers, and I trust with all these measures the light will be found to burn and work satisfactorily.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

Captain Anstruther, R.N.,
Senior Naval Officer,
H.M.S. "Brilliant,"
Kingston.

No. 148.

THE DIRECT WEST INDIA CABLE COMPANY, LIMITED, to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received March 9, 1907.)

SIR, 33, Old Broad Street, London, E.C., March 9, 1907.

THE following telegram has been received this morning, viz.:—

"To the Secretary of State for the Colonies, London.

"Strong confidence here that His Majesty's Government will act wisely and generously for Jamaica, when it knows the facts. Equally strong belief it has no real knowledge of the actual and prospective conditions to be met both as regards personal necessities arising out of the earthquake and the wider measures necessary and possible at this time. Earnest desire of all thoughtful people here that no decisive action be taken about grant or loan or legislative measures affecting Kingston till petition is presented and Home Government is placed in possession of the information which delegates can furnish on chief matters involved. The substantial rebuilding work cannot immediately commence in any event, and it is for this that the grant and loan are really needed, so no loss will result from few weeks' delay in deciding this matter. Welfare of Jamaica demands special care now or difficulties of situation may be greatly increased. Deputation leaves with petition by 'Port Antonio' fourteenth March.—ARCHBISHOP OF WEST INDIES."

I am, &c.,
JOSEPH RIPPON,
General Manager.

No. 149.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR OF BRITISH HONDURAS.

SIR, Downing Street, March 9, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 14th ultimo* reporting that a vote of $1,000 had been passed by the Legislative Council and that private subscriptions amounting to $2,500 had been collected in British Honduras towards the relief of the sufferers in the recent earthquake in Jamaica.

2. The action of the Council and the generous liberality of private subscribers will be warmly appreciated in Jamaica.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 150.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 11, 1907.)

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 21, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of a telegram† despatched by me on the 19th instant, in reply to your telegram, No. 4, of the 16th February.‡

I enclose also extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Privy Council on the subject on the 19th.

The two Privy Councillors who were in favour of the Colonial Government's guaranteeing an Imperial Loan were the Honourable the Attorney-General and the Honourable Dr. Pringle. I believe that both considered that any Imperial Loan which the Colony might guarantee should not exceed a limited amount, which might approximate to one quarter of a million, but no vote was taken on this point.

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* No. 140. † No. 117A. ‡ No. 107.

It seemed to be believed that when strict business terms came to be placed before borrowers, there would be far fewer applicants than is now suspected, and that the experience of the year 1883 (when a loan was also demanded by persons professing to give expression to public opinion) might in some measure be repeated.

If any guaranty of a loan by the Imperial Government to the owners of property in Kingston and vicinity for the restoration of house property were to be required by the Imperial Government of the Colonial Government, any proposal for such guaranty would require the sanction of the Legislative Council of Jamaica, and it would necessitate the abandonment of my previous proposal to grant £47,901 to Kingston and Port Royal as compensation for remission of rates (despatches of the 25th ultimo, and of the 8th instant*), since the Colony would require all its surplus funds as insurance against possible bad debts arising out of the loan, while the early expenditure of so much borrowed money would in very many cases obviate the necessity for relief from rates and taxes; on the other hand if the Colonial Government guaranteed, it might undertake to administer the loan, and it could do this perhaps quite as economically as an Imperial Officer. The proposal for remission and compensation represented the maximum which I and my advisers generally deemed that the Colony should expend by way of aid to Kingston and Port Royal; and if any fresh sacrifice in the present or future is required of the Colony for the same object, the original proposal should be withdrawn.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 150.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Meeting of Privy Council.

At a Privy Council on 19th February.

There was read a telegram from the Secretary of State to the Governor received on 17th February, asking to be informed (1) what administrative body, if any, it is proposed to constitute to deal with rebuilding of Kingston; and (2) what amount of grant, and what amount of loan from Imperial funds are desired, and on what terms, and for what exact purposes, and intimating that the Imperial Treasury are not likely to entertain any proposals for a loan unless the Colonial Government accept the liability.

The Governor consulted the Council as to what reply should be sent; a draft message was considered and approved, after adding that only two Privy Councillors approve of the Colonial Government guaranteeing an Imperial Loan.

The Attorney-General entered, and took his seat during the consideration of this telegram.

No. 151.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS.

SIR, Downing Street, March 11, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 4th February,† on the subject of the vote of the Legislative Council of Montserrat for the relief of the sufferers in the earthquake in Jamaica.

2. I understand that the money voted has been remitted to Jamaica; otherwise, whilst I appreciate the generosity which inspired the vote, I should have been

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* Not printed. † No. 136.

inclined to suggest that the expenditure was beyond the means of the Presidency in present circumstances.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 152.

FOREIGN OFFICE to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received March 13, 1907.)

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
March 12, 1907.

REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS LETTER:

Colonial Office, January 23.*

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSURE.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Mr. Mallet (Panama), February 4	Jamaica Earthquake.

Enclosure in No. 152.

(Extract.)

SIR, British Consulate, Panamá, February 4, 1907.

IN accordance with your instruction I thanked Mr. Stevens for sending the steamer "Advance" to Kingston with food supplies and tents for the sufferers by the earthquake and fire, and have the honour to enclose a copy of my letter and the cordial note I received from him in acknowledgment.

Mr. Stevens waived all technicalities when he took upon himself the whole responsibility of his humane action, and, he was informed in a telegram from Washington that as the Navy Department had the matter in charge there was no need for him to send relief.

In connection with the forwarding of supplies I bring to your notice the services of Mr. W. G. Bierd, General Manager of the Panamá Railroad, and Mr. Jackson Smith, Manager of Labour and Quarters of the Canal Commission, as they both exhibited the utmost interest and energy in carrying out Mr. Stevens's orders, and the Jamaicans on the Isthmus, to show practical appreciation of their conduct, are subscribing to a fund to present them with a suitable testimonial.

The French cruiser "D'Estrées" in the harbour at Colon, was directed to proceed to Kingston, and I received a note from the French Chargé d'Affaires stating that the Commander was prepared to accept and convey any provisions, stores and funds anybody wished to send.

About two thousand pounds has been publicly donated on the Isthmus of Panamá towards the relief fund, and the Municipalities of the Canal zone appro-

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* No. 47.

priated £160, which sum I was requested to send forward with an expression of the profound sympathy of the officials and residents of the municipal districts for the people who suffered from the terrible disaster.

I have, &c.,
C. MALLET.

The Right Honourable
Sir Edward Grey, Bart.,
&c., &c., &c.

Mr. C. MALLET to Mr. STEVENS.

SIR, British Consulate, Panamá, January 22, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to confirm my telegram to you of this date, the text of which reads as follows:—

> "The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has cabled to me to-day from London to convey to you the cordial thanks of His Britannic Majesty's Government for your prompt and valuable assistance in sending the 'Advance' to Jamaica with supplies and tents, which is cordially appreciated."

It affords me the liveliest satisfaction to be the medium through which this acknowledgment is made to you, and I desire to add that the assistance you rendered with such promptitude, and the energy and interest shown by Mr. W. G. Bierd in attending to the essential details, has promoted a profound feeling of gratitude in the minds of the British Colony on the Isthmus of Panamá.

I have, &c.,
C. MALLET.

The Honourable
John F. Stevens,
Engineer-in-Chief of the Panamá Canal,
Culebra.

Mr. STEVENS to Mr. MALLET.

SIR, Isthmian Canal Commission, Culebra, January 23, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your courteous letter to me, of January 22, conveying the thanks of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for the small efforts that we were able to put forward to assist the distrest people of Kingston at the time of the recent catastrophe.

I am under obligations to you, and will say that I will be glad to co-operate at all times in matters affecting the joint interests of the two countries.

Truly yours,
JNO. F. STEVENS,
Chief Engineer.

Honourable C. Mallet,
British Consul,
Panamá.

No. 153.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 13, 1907.)

[*Copy was sent to Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, March* 15, 1907.]

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 25, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated

the 22nd ultimo,* transmitting a copy of a letter from the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce containing a resolution expressing the sympathy of the Chamber with the sufferers by the earthquake of the 14th January last.

2. In reply I have to ask your Lordship to be so good as to convey to the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce my grateful thanks on behalf of the sufferers for this kind expression of sympathy.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

No. 154.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 13, 1907.)

[*Copy was sent to Foreign Office, March* 15, 1907.]

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 25, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated the 25th ultimo* transmitting copies of letters† from the Foreign Office conveying from the Governments of Portugal, Belgium, and Norway, messages of sympathy with the sufferers by the earthquake in Jamaica.

2. In reply I have to ask your Lordship to be so good as to convey to those Governments my grateful thanks on behalf of the sufferers for these kind expressions of sympathy.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

No. 155.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 13, 1907.)

[*Copy was sent to the Mayor of Leicester and the Town Clerk of Southampton, March* 16, 1907.]

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 25, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated the 25th ultimo,* transmitting messages‡ of sympathy from the Mayor of Leicester and the Town Council of Southampton with the sufferers by the earthquake of the 14th January.

2. In reply I have to ask Your Lordship to be so good as to convey to the Mayor of Leicester and to the Town Council of Southampton my grateful thanks on behalf of the sufferers for these kind expressions of sympathy.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

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* Not printed. † Nos. 14, 45, and 46. ‡ Nos. 20 and 53.

No. 156.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 13, 1907.)

[*Copy was sent to The British Chamber of Commerce, Paris, March* 15, 1907.]

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, February 25, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated the 22nd ultimo,* transmitting a copy of a letter† from the President of the British Chamber of Commerce, Paris, forwarding a resolution in which the sympathy of the Chamber with the commercial community and inhabitants of Jamaica was expressed and in which it was intimated that a subscription list would be opened in aid of the sufferers by the earthquake of the 14th January last. A copy of your Lordship's reply‡ to that letter has also been received by me.

2. In reply, I have to ask your Lordship to be so good as to convey to the British Chamber of Commerce, Paris, my very grateful thanks on behalf of the sufferers for this kind expression of sympathy and for the Chamber's intention to open a subscription list.

3. A copy of the President's letter will be sent to the municipal authorities of Kingston as desired.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

No. 157.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 19, 1907.)

[*Copy was sent to Foreign Office, March* 25, 1907.]

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, March 4, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated the 7th ultimo,* transmitting copies of messages§ of sympathy with the sufferers by the calamitous earthquake of the 14th January last, from the Colombian Legation, the Uruguayan Minister, the Mayor of Havre, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Panama, and from the Portuguese Chamber of Deputies.

2. These messages have, no doubt, already been acknowledged on their receipt in England, but I would ask your Lordship to be so good as to convey to the Governments and persons mentioned above my grateful thanks on behalf of the sufferers for these kind expressions of sympathy.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

No. 158.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 19, 1907.)

[*Copy was sent to Foreign Office, 25th March*, 1907.]

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, March 4, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated

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* Not printed. † No. 34. ‡ No. 35. § Enclosures in No. 67.

the 7th ultimo,* transmitting copies of letters and telegrams† conveying messages of sympathy with the sufferers by the earthquake in Jamaica, from the Japanese Embassy, the President of Hayti, the Haytian Minister, the Spanish Embassy, the President of Venezuela, and the Consul-General of Venezuela.

2. These messages of sympathy have, no doubt, already been suitably acknowledged on their receipt in England; but I desire to ask, on behalf of the sufferers, that my grateful thanks for them may also be conveyed to the Presidents and Governments concerned.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

No. 159.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 19, 1907.)

[*Copy was sent to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, 23rd March, 1907.*]

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, March 4, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated the 31st January last,* transmitting a copy of a letter‡ from the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, stating that he had opened a fund for the relief of sufferers by the late earthquake, and that he had received up to the date of his letter £1,400 in subscriptions. A copy of the reply which Your Lordship caused to be sent to that letter has also been received by me.

2. On behalf of the sufferers I have the honour to ask Your Lordship to be so good as to convey my very grateful thanks to the Lord Provost for his action in starting the fund, and to the people of the city of Edinburgh for their generosity, together with an expression of my great appreciation of the sympathy which has thus been displayed.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

No. 160.

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 19, 1907.)

[*Copy was sent to the Lord Provost of Glasgow, 23rd March, 1907.*]

MY LORD, King's House, Jamaica, March 4, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated 8th February last,§ informing me that the Lord Provost of Glasgow has been so good as to open a fund for the relief of the sufferers from the earthquake in this Colony and has remitted to you the sum of £2,000 as a first instalment on account of the subscriptions received, which sum the Crown Agents had been instructed to place to the credit of the Government of Jamaica in their accounts.

2. In reply, I have to ask Your Lordship to be so good as to transmit to the Lord Provost of Glasgow my high appreciation of his thoughtful action in opening the Fund, with the request that he will convey to the generous donors my grateful thanks on behalf of the sufferers.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Governor.

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* Not printed. † Enclosures in No. 72. ‡ No. 63. § Not printed: see No. 89.

No. 161.

THE ACTING GOVERNOR OF SIERRA LEONE to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received March 23, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 164.]

Government House, Freetown, Sierra Leone,
March 8, 1907.

MY LORD,

REFERRING to my telegram of 21st January, and to your Lordship's reply of the 23rd idem,* I have the honour to inform you that the sum of £107 1s. 8d. has been voluntarily subscribed by the citizens of Freetown to show their sympathy with the inhabitants of a sister Colony in their distress.

2. I believe I am voicing the wish of the subscribers in leaving it with your Lordship to decide to which special fund this amount should be paid, and I will ask you to authorize the Crown Agents to make the necessary payment, and to debit this Colony with the amount.

I have, &c.,
G. B. HADDON SMITH,
Acting Governor.

No. 162.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF THE WEST INDIES to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received April 2, 1907.)

[*Answered by No.* 163.]

24, Belsize Park, London, N.W., March 30, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to report to Your Lordship the arrival in London of Mr. Farquharson and myself as a deputation from Jamaica in connexion with the earthquake disaster and the need for Imperial assistance.

I forward herewith a petition on the subject, which has been signed by nearly every person of influence belonging to various classes in Kingston and the neighbourhood, and by many others in the community generally possessing a representative character.

I have the honour to ask that an opportunity may be afforded for an early interview with Your Lordship and the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Colonies. There are probably points in the petition on which you may need further information and particulars, before His Majesty's Government can deal with the practical questions involved, or sanction the presentation of the petition to Parliament.

I have, &c.,
E. JAMAICA,
Archbishop of the West Indies.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Enclosure in No. 162.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The humble petition of the undersigned, of whom the majority are residents in the City of Kingston, and the adjoining Parish of St. Andrew, Jamaica, some of whom are fully conversant with other parts of the Island,

SHEWETH:—

That on the 14th January, 1907, the City of Kingston and the lower portion

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* Nos. 30 and 44A.

of the adjoining Parish of St. Andrew, and also some large buildings in other parts of this Island suffered great damage from a severe earthquake; and afterwards a fire completed the destruction of almost the entire business section of Kingston.

That about 700 persons were killed on the spot; many being burnt beyond identification. Multitudes were seriously injured, of whom a large number have since died; and many were maimed for life.

That as a result of the disaster many widows and orphans are in a state of destitution.

That multitudes of persons of genteel birth, and of others in humbler ranks of life, whose households depended for maintenance upon incomes derived from shops or houses, or portions of houses, which they let for rent, are either homeless, or living in broken sections of their remaining buildings, while they are left entirely without resources.

That a much larger number are reduced from a fair condition of comfort to the verge of poverty.

That many businesses are suspended, and the clerks and others connected therewith have no present occupation or income, or any prospect thereof.

That large numbers of private persons of all classes have lost furniture, clothing, and everything else they possessed.

That with a few unimportant exceptions, the merchants, large and small, have lost their entire stock-in-trade, and books.

That there has also been great loss of apparatus and tools belonging to the operative and artisan classes.

That even should the expectations of payments from Insurance Companies be realised, very inadequate resources will be available for the re-establishment of business; and great loss of income must arise to nearly all classes of persons until such re-establishment takes place.

That on the lowest computation made by careful and competent investigators, the outlay required for effectively restoring the buildings in the district which is not burnt, will average not less than 60 per cent. of the value of the buildings before the earthquake. In the burnt area complete reconstruction will be necessary.

That the large charitable gifts which have come from many sources at home and abroad, including the Mansion House Fund of the City of London, are being carefully utilised to meet immediate needs of food, clothing, shelter, and restoration of the small houses of the poorer sections of the population. After these immediate needs have been met, it may be necessary to make some permanent provision for destitute widows, orphans, maimed persons and others in need thereof, also to appropriate a substantial sum from these charitable resources towards restoring the larger homes of the indigent among other classes; but unless the total charitable aid reaches a far larger amount than has yet been reported, it will be entirely inadequate; even with the grant herein asked for, to meet the requirements of the case. This becomes more apparent as investigation into the results of the disaster proceeds day by day.

That it is clear that, even if these objects can be obtained, nothing will be available from the charitable resources just mentioned, towards restoring the business portion of the city and the homes of the people above the destitute classes.

That the funds of the Building Societies in Kingston are almost entirely invested already in destroyed or injured buildings; and no active operations will be possible to them for some time to come. Banks do not advance money on building operations; and there are no corporations or private persons with money to invest in re-erecting the destroyed buildings.

That it follows that without large extraneous assistance the needful restoration cannot take place, and Kingston must for a long time, if not for ever, remain a desolated city. Yet Kingston, with its magnificent harbour and central situation, is the main gateway of the Island and chief emporium of its trade. The restoration

of the capital, therefore, is a question of vital import, not merely to its own inhabitants, but to the entire Island.

That the amount required for the restoration can at present only be approximately estimated, and until more experience has been gained in restoring the substantial buildings, opinions will differ as to the cost at which this can be done effectively, in accordance with new city regulations; but the following estimates, prepared with care by persons of experience, knowledge, and judgment, represent, not a maximum, but a minimum of the damage sustained.

Total loss of buildings in the burnt area	£500,000
Losses on private buildings in the city of Kingston and the suburbs which are in the Parish of St. Andrew ...	900,000
Ecclesiastical buildings in Kingston	60,000
Merchandise and personal property in burnt area ...	500,000
Ecclesiastical buildings out of Kingston	30,000
Other buildings in other Parishes	20,000
Total	£2,010,000

This estimate does not include damage to Government and Municipal buildings.

That it would be an aggravation of the present misfortune if, through the lack of means to resuscitate the life and work of the city of Kingston, large numbers of inhabitants who are not capable of turning to such other work as may be available in any other parts of the Island, should remain for a considerable time out of employment and dependent on charity.

That it would also be certainly productive of future trouble, if, for want of adequate resources, buildings were put up in an imperfect manner, instead of taking advantage of all that the experience gained here and elsewhere furnishes as to the best way of making buildings, as nearly as possible, secure against earthquake, as well as the less remote dangers of fire and hurricane. Indeed it is recognized that provisions should be made for the rebuilding of Kingston on lines which will be protective against the dangers above indicated; and the local Legislature is now engaged on the subject with a view to enacting regulations giving effect to the objects aimed at.

Your petitioners have stated above the general conclusions arrived at on as careful an estimate as it has been practicable so far to make; but it is obvious that such estimate affords but an inadequate idea of the extent of the misery, privation, and loss resulting to individuals and to the community from the late disaster.

That to the number of the unfortunates whose poverty is the direct result of the disaster, must be added many who previously were penniless, and depended on the charity of others now ruined by the earthquake and fire, and unable to render aid in any form. Full statistics are not yet available, but steps are being taken to enumerate and classify the sufferers, and the result of the investigation will indicate the magnitude of the problem calling for a solution.

That generous has been the aid so far forthcoming from different sources among which your petitioners pray leave to make specially grateful mention of the Mansion House Fund and the liberal contribution of the sister Colony of Canada. But the needs of the case are great; and out of all proportion to the relief thus far afforded.

That the stream of sympathy in the great country inhabited by our near neighbours gave promise of increasing in volume till later it should become a broad river bearing succour for the distressed. But your petitioners have observed the dignified attitude of His Majesty's Government in relation to the generous offer of the American Government to aid sufferers in money or otherwise, His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs having in the name and on behalf of His Majesty's Government intimated in courteous terms of grateful appreciation that there will be no justification for calls upon the generosity of other nations.

Your petitioners appreciate with the liveliest satisfaction and with heartfelt gratitude this intimation that geographical distance will not cause the mother to

forget her children: that Great Britain will not leave her stricken subjects to the generosity of other nations and assistance prompted simply by the instincts of common humanity: that the Empire will care for its own.

Your petitioners as citizens of the Empire are thus made to feel "The Kinship of the British Empire." They recognize that there devolves on them the duty, not of urging the principle that aid may legitimately be claimed on behalf of a portion of the Empire stricken by a dire calamity, but the less onerous task of showing the extent of the loss and indicating the nature of the relief that will be best adapted to the exigencies of the situation.

Amongst your petitioners there are men who are accustomed to deal and are capable of dealing with large transactions, and they are confident that business arrangements such as those foreshadowed in the prayer of this Petition can be made, and that the security will be adequate from the commencement and will annually improve.

In conclusion your petitioners having thus presented a statement of their needs in sufficient detail, and in as clear a manner as they are able, most humbly crave that their prayers be heard, their requests granted, and the needful funds provided by the generosity and wisdom of the British people and the British Parliament.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray:

First for a grant of £150,000, or such further sum as may suffice to bring succour to the bereaved, and aid in restoring in an effective manner the homes of those persons who are entirely without resources, and who could not therefore take advantage of any assistance in the nature of a loan involving yearly payments.

Second for an Imperial loan of not less than £1,000,000, at a low rate of interest, and with provisions for a suitable redemption fund. The loan to be administered on a business basis, and to be applied in aiding owners of property to restore their buildings. Each case of borrowing from such a fund would be dealt with on its business merits, and the total appropriations of the fund would be so ordered and calculated as to work a final result of rebuilding the city in an adequate manner and of redeeming the loan in a reasonable fixed period, and restoring the properties unencumbered to their owners.

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, &c.

No. 163.

COLONIAL OFFICE to THE ARCHBISHOP OF THE WEST INDIES.

MOST REVEREND SIR, Downing Street, April 8, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo,* enclosing a petition from inhabitants of Jamaica urging the need for Imperial assistance in connection with the recent disaster at Kingston, and requesting an interview.

2. I am to inform you that Lord Elgin will be pleased to see you and Mr. Farquharson at this Office at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, the 10th instant.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

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* No. 162.

No. 164.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE ACTING GOVERNOR OF SIERRA LEONE.

SIR, Downing Street, April 8, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 8th instant,* and to inform you that the Crown Agents have been authorised to pay to the credit of the Jamaica Relief Fund Account from Sierra Leone funds the sum of £107 1s. 8d. subscribed by the citizens of Freetown in aid of sufferers by the earthquake.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN.

No. 165.

ADMIRALTY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received May 4, 1907.)

SIR, Admiralty, May 1, 1907.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to forward herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, extracts from a letter, dated 12th April, which has been received from the Rear-Admiral Commanding the Fourth Cruiser Squadron, relating to the damage caused by the earthquake at Kingston, Jamaica.

I am, &c.,
C. I. THOMAS.

Enclosure in No. 165.

REAR ADMIRAL COMMANDING, Fourth Cruiser Squadron, to ADMIRALTY.

(Extract.)

April 12, 1907.

Report on Damage caused by Earthquake at Kingston, Jamaica.

Submission to Admiralty.

For information; the enclosed remarks which were compiled in compliance with my directions may be considered as supplementary to and confirming the excellent report of the officers of the "Indefatigable" which has already been forwarded by Captain Nelson Ward.

2. I entirely concur in the opinion expressed by Captain Phillpotts as to the condition of Port Royal Dockyard, of which (as already noted in my General Letter dated 1st instant) I myself made a close inspection.

3. From my own observation I consider that the reports of the damage which have appeared from time to time in the press were by no means exaggerated.

F. S. INGLEFIELD,
Rear-Admiral.

SIR, H.M.S. "Euryalus," at Vera Cruz, April 7, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith the reports furnished by Commander Simms, Engineer Commander Chapman, and Fleet Surgeon Colborne, on the Port Royal Naval Establishment; by Mr. Byrne, Chief Carpenter, on the same; by Major Tupman and Lieutenant Money on the earthquake and its consequences in Kingston and neighbourhood; and by Surgeon Horsfall on the Kingston Hospital.

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* No. 161.

With regard to the various reports on the effect of the earthquake, I would submit that the most noticeable points to me are as follows:—

The enormous destruction of dwelling-houses in Kingston which is more than one could believe, hardly a house in the zone of the earthquake is uninjured and nearly all are practically destroyed, although at first sight some of them appear undamaged.

(2) The marvellous rapidity with which the streets of Kingston were cleared, trams and communications started again, and the absence of any disorderly disturbances in the town.

(3) The refuge camp on the racecourse which is a marvel of organisation and discipline.

(4) The effect of the earthquake in the dockyard at Port Royal which in my opinion is so great that it is almost worthless to attempt to restore it.

I have, &c.,
E. M. Phillpotts,
Captain.

Rear-Admiral
F. S. Inglefield,
Commanding Fourth Cruiser Squadron.

(Extracts.)

Report on Earthquake in Jamaica (Kingston and Port Royal) also Relief Measures, &c.

The magnitude of the disaster to the town of Kingston is undoubtedly far greater than one has been led to suppose by newspaper report, &c. It is not too much to say that there is not one single brick-built house remaining intact in the whole town, and very few that are not more or less completely wrecked. This naturally applies more forcibly to the burnt area. The mortar employed in the brick buildings appears to have been of an inferior quality to judge by the ease with which the demolitions now in progress are being made. Many of the more lightly constructed buildings have, however, escaped with comparatively little damage.

Immediately after the earthquake and during the fire it was impossible to get the civilian coloured population to do anything for themselves or for anybody else. Within an hour of the shock a picket of 400 of the West India Regiment was patrolling the streets and doing most valuable rescue and other work. The officers of this regiment state that their men behaved extremely well; they patrolled the streets with fixed bayonets and ball cartridge which would, in their officers' opinion, have been used effectively had occasion arisen. There was, however, little pilfering and no organised looting or rioting. This is no doubt partly due to the extreme terror with which the natives were seized, arising from the fact that they thought that the end of the world was upon them.

After the shock and subsequent fire great difficulty was experienced in finding labourers for the work of extricating the dead bodies and clearing the streets. The pay for this work was at first from four to five shillings per diem, but has now been reduced to two shillings. The streets were nevertheless clear for the trams to commence running by the following Friday—four days after the shock—with the exception of those in the burnt area. The streets are now entirely clear of débris and it can be seen that no fissures have occurred in the ground in Kingston. Whether the rainy season will cause any subsidences, it is impossible to say.

The homeless are living, for the most part, in tents and temporary huts on the racecourse, the upper half of which is reserved for the better class of people who are paying the Quebec Company rent for the land they occupy. The West India Regiment are providing a guard for the maintenance of privacy in this part. With regard to the poorer population, great difficulty is being experienced in ascertaining their previous dwelling-places and circumstances, as they prefer to continue living on charity rather than to return to work on the site of their previous homes.

Except in isolated cases rebuilding operations have not yet been commenced for the following reasons:—

(*a*) Want of funds.

(*b*) Expectation of Imperial aid and a Government loan on easy terms. A deputation, headed by Archbishop Nuttall, is now endeavouring to arrange this financial assistance in England.

(*c*) The new building laws which are being framed. These, it is understood, will include schemes for widening streets where necessary and regulations for the construction of new houses.

(*d*) Scarcity of skilled labour.

At present the maximum grant for house-repairing is £5, which is of great assistance to the smaller householders.

The principal sufferers are the employees of the larger business houses who are of course out of work, have little prospect of obtaining any for a long time to come, and are unfitted for manual labour.

Barracks of the West India Regiment. The West India Regiment barracks at Up Park Camp suffered very severely, only the officers' mess being repairable. The work of demolition and clearing away débris is well in hand. Temporary quarters are being erected for all the troops (upwards of 1,100 rank and file) and these will be available before the end of April. Meanwhile, the regiment is under canvas, many of the officers having also built huts for themselves alongside their tents.

Military Hospital. The Military Hospital was completely wrecked, considerable loss of life occurring among the patients.

A temporary hospital consisting of four large wooden wards which were sent out from England ready for erection will also be ready for use before the end of April. There are at present 80 patients under canvas, but many of these will be invalided home shortly.

Ordnance Store. The Army Ordnance Department on the harbour front was severely shaken but only the west wall collapsed completely. The damage to Ordnance Stores is estimated at under £500.

Electric Power and Lighting Station. Current is obtained from a water-power station at Bog Walk in the hills. The overhead 15,000-volt transmission lines from there to the transformer station in Kingston were broken in one place only. The transformers and rotary converters at the Kingston station were saved from damage by the presence of mind of the staff, the main switches being thrown out immediately the first shock was felt. The damage to the lighting and power mains was practically limited to the burnt area, but five tramcars out of a total of 25 were caught in this area and destroyed.

Telephone Company. The telephone installation and central exchange were completely destroyed, but it is hoped to re-connect some subscribers during April.

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Water Supply. There appears to be no shortage of water.

Land-slides. Several land-slides have occurred in the hills, two large ones being visible from the harbour. The Newcastle road is in a dangerous condition. It is anticipated that the rains will cause further slides.

Loss of life. The loss of life cannot be definitely ascertained, owing to the necessity of burning a large number of bodies (white and coloured) as soon as they were recovered. The urgency of many of these cases made registration impossible. The total death-roll is variously estimated by different officials at from twelve to fifteen hundred.

Port Royal. The effect of the shock at Port Royal is very apparent, particularly on the reclaimed ground near the sea, there being many alterations in the ground level with large fissures.

The whole of the dockyard buildings and hospital are absolutely unsafe, but the residential quarters are still fit for occupation, very little brick having been used in their construction.

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J. A. TUPMAN,
Major, R.M.L.I.

B. M. MONEY,
Lieutenant, T.

No. 166.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE ACTING GOVERNOR.

(Sent 4.30 p.m., May 8, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

I am glad to be able to inform you that His Majesty's Government have decided to propose to House of Commons free grant of £150,000 in aid of sufferers by the earthquake in Jamaica and loan to the Colonial Government of £800,000. Terms of loan will be communicated to you later

It is hoped that aid which it is thus proposed to give from public funds, supplementing private subscriptions already contributed, will enable people of His Majesty's ancient and loyal Colony of Jamaica, in conjunction with their own efforts, to surmount the great trial which has befallen them, and secure renewed contentment and prosperity to the island.—ELGIN.

No. 167.

COLONIAL OFFICE to THE ARCHBISHOP OF THE WEST INDIES.

[*Answered by No.* 169.]

MOST REVEREND SIR, Downing Street, May 8, 1907.

I AM directed by the Earl of Elgin to inform you that His Majesty's Government have decided to invite Parliament to make a free grant of £150,000 in aid of the sufferers by the earthquake in Jamaica, and to authorize a loan to the Colonial Government of £800,000. The exact terms of the loan are still under consideration.

Lord Elgin is informing the Officer Administering the Government of Jamaica of this decision by telegraph, and is expressing the hope that the aid which it is thus proposed to give from public funds, supplementing the private subscriptions already contributed, will enable the people of His Majesty's ancient and loyal Colony of Jamaica, in conjunction with their own efforts, to surmount the great trial which has befallen them, and secure renewed contentment and prosperity to the Island.

The Petition brought home by yourself and Mr. Farquharson will be formally laid before the House of Commons with the recommendation of His Majesty thereon. Lord Elgin desires me to express his thanks to you and Mr. Farquharson for the assistance you have given in the consideration of this most important matter.

I am, &c.,
C. P. LUCAS.

No. 168.

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Received 11 p.m., May 8, 1907.)

TELEGRAM.

Referring to your telegram of 8th May,* I respectfully tender on behalf of Jamaica heartfelt and profound thanks to His Majesty's Government.—BOURNE.

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* No. 166.

No. 169.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF THE WEST INDIES to COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Received May 10, 1907.)

SIR, 24, Belsize Park, London, N.W., May 10, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 8th May, informing me of the decision of His Majesty's Government respecting the application from Jamaica for Imperial assistance. Though the aid thus assured is not quite all that we desired, I trust under good management it will go far towards furnishing the needed assistance to enable an effective beginning to be made in the restoration of buildings and the resuscitation of the business of the city, and the home life of the people; and will serve as a stimulus to all grades of persons to use to the utmost their own powers of self-help.

2. I desire, on behalf of my colleague, Mr. Farquharson, and myself, to express our great appreciation of the personal courtesy shown to us, and the sympathetic and patient consideration of our representations by His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and by all those in the Colonial Office with whom we have conferred.

I have, &c.,
E. JAMAICA,
Archbishop of the West Indies.

C. P. Lucas, Esq., C.B.,
Assistant Under Secretary of State
For the Colonies,
Colonial Office, S.W.

No. 170.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE to THE GOVERNOR (Mr. SYDNEY OLIVIER).

SIR, Downing Street, May 17, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to confirm my telegram of the 8th of May,† conveying the decision of His Majesty's Government on the Petition to the House of Commons from the inhabitants of Jamaica, praying for assistance from the Home Exchequer for the relief of sufferers from the recent earthquake, which was brought to this country by the Archbishop of the West Indies and Mr. Farquharson.

2. The Petition was supplemented by verbal arguments put forward by the Deputation at interviews which they had with me on the 10th and 11th of April.

3. After a very careful consideration of the whole matter, in which I received great assistance from yourself, I consulted the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, and His Majesty's Government have decided to ask Parliament to provide for (1) a free gift of £150,000; (2) a loan to the Jamaica Government of £800,000.

4. It is intended that the free grant of £150,000 should jointly, with the balance of the subscriptions received from private charity, be administered under a special authority to be constituted by the local Government under the approval of the Secretary of State for the following purposes: (*a*) immediate needs of food and shelter in lieu of poor relief to destitute persons; (*b*) restoration of the houses of the poorer section of the population; (*c*) permanent provision for the destitute, aged, widows, orphans, and cripples; (*d*) restoration of homes for the indigent in the middle classes; (*e*) help to enable shop-keepers, traders, and others who are without means to start business, and to enable householders who cannot give full security to avail themselves of assistance from the loan.

5. As regards the loan to the Jamaica Government of £800,000 it is to be understood that it will be applied mainly if not exclusively to the purpose of restoring or replacing public or other buildings damaged by the earthquake. The Lords

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* No. 167. † No. 166.

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on 31 October, 2019

Commissioners have stipulated as conditions of the loan that (*a*) the Colony will relinquish its unexhausted powers of borrowing under the Colonial Loans Act of 1899; and that (*b*) no advance shall be made until the Legislature of Jamaica has provided to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State and of their Lordships for charging the principal and interest of the loan on the general revenues and assets of the Colony with priority over any subsequent charges, and for raising or securing the raising of revenues sufficient for the service of the loan.

6. I have informed their Lordships that I concur in these conditions, and that I will invite the Government of Jamaica, as I now do, to take the formal steps necessary to comply with them. I am communicating with their Lordships further as to the terms of the proposed loan, and will inform you of the conditions decided upon by telegraph as soon as possible.

7. I have also asked that the free grant of £150,000 may be made available at the earliest possible date, in view of the urgent need for assistance.

8. I have now only to repeat what I have endeavoured to express in my telegram of the 8th instant,* the earnest wish of His Majesty's Government that the assistance now to be rendered, with the generous gifts received from other sources, may enable the loyal inhabitants of Jamaica, in conjunction with their own efforts, to repair their fortunes and secure renewed prosperity and contentment, and I have to convey to you the confident hope that you will succeed in the difficult task entrusted to you of guiding the community out of the grave embarrassments in which the recent disaster has involved it.

I have, &c.,
ELGIN

No. 166.